ヘタコイ

hetakoi

NAKANO JUNKO 4

中野純子

YJ ヤンジャン YJC

ヘタコイ hetakoi 4

中野純子

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YJ ヤンジャン YJC

ヘタコイ hetakoi

温泉バイトで距離が縮まった流香と静。
後期試験でお互い忙しい日々の中、
静は中高時代の片想いの相手だった
島津なぎさと再会する。そして、
流香が昔好きだったタピセンOB・
土屋剛基が突然の帰国！
なんと静の家へ居候することに…!!

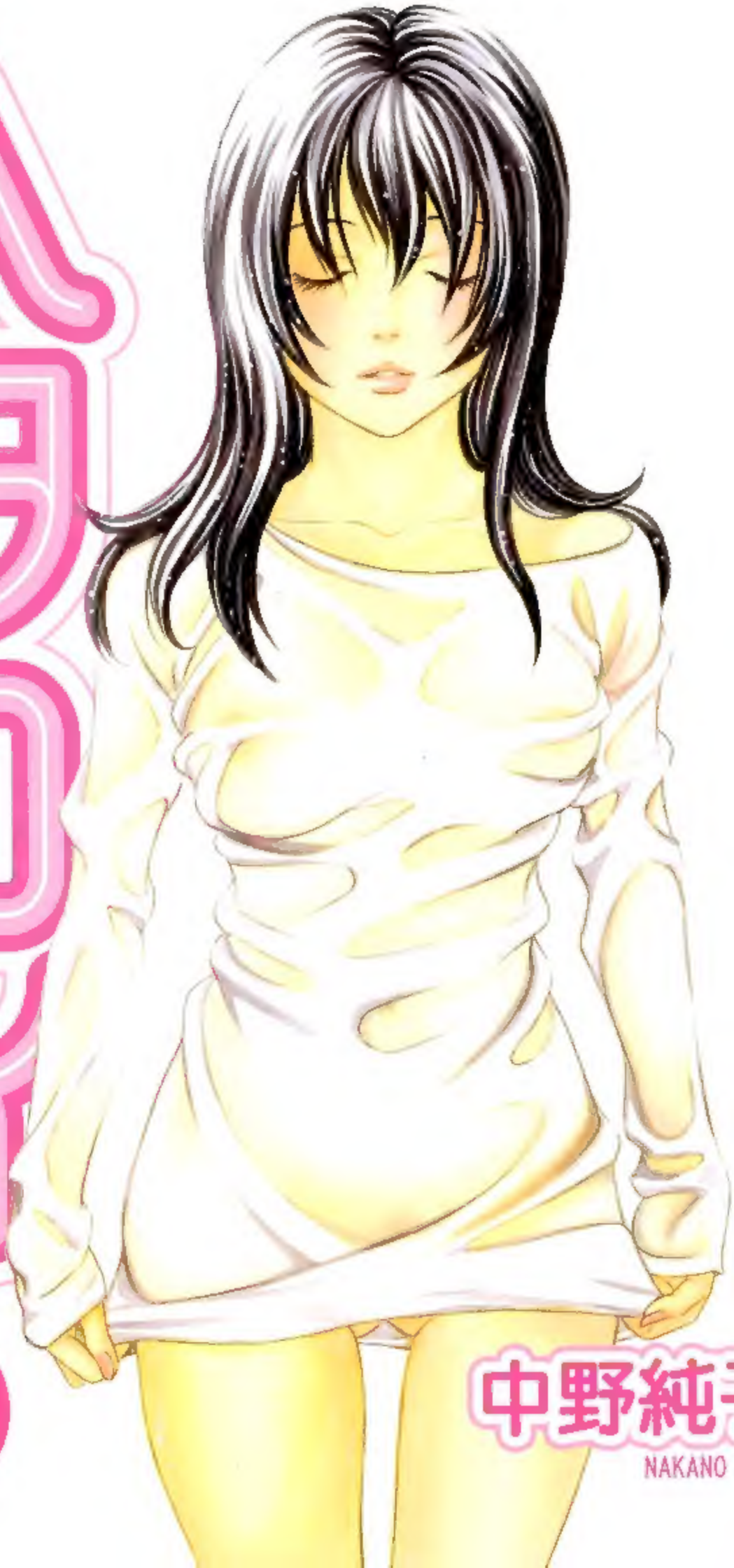
ヘタコイ

ヘタコイ

COVER DESIGN
OSAMU IWASAKI(POCKET)

へたこい

hetakoi



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★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などにはいっさい関係ありません。

CHAPTER 19
REUNION

WELCOME BACK! ♪

WELL YEAH! ♡

SO HOW DID THINGS GO WITH GRANPA KOMA?

……

FOR REAL?

JEEZ! I'VE BEEN SO LONELY! ♡

DIDN'T YOU ENJOY LIVING TOGETHER WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND WHILE I WAS GONE?

HE K-
KI...

HE KISSED ME.

SEEMS HE GETS BOLDER WHEN HE DRINKS...

KISSED YOU!?

THAT GOOD FOR NOTHING ALL ON HIS OWN!?

BOLD!?

NO WAY!

IT WAS JUST A LIGHT KISS ON THE LIPS.

DID HE SLIP YOU THE TONGUE!?

I..

IT MADE ME VERY HAPPY.

WHY DID IT MAKE ME THIS HAPPY?

THAT'S ...

BECAUSE I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM.

YOU TWO ARE DATING NOW!?

SO THAT MEANS...

.....

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

IN THE NEAR FUTURE ...

WE ... ..WILL I THINK.

TELL HIM! RIGHT THIS MINUTE GO TELL HIM!!

NO, I DIDN'T ...

YOU DIDN'T TELL HIM YOU "LOVE♡" HIM?

I'M NOT MENTALLY PREPARED YET...

WHAT KIND PREPARATION DO YOU EVEN NEED!!

I'M NOT..!

YOU'RE ALREADY WORRYING ABOUT YOUR FIRST TIME WITH HIM?

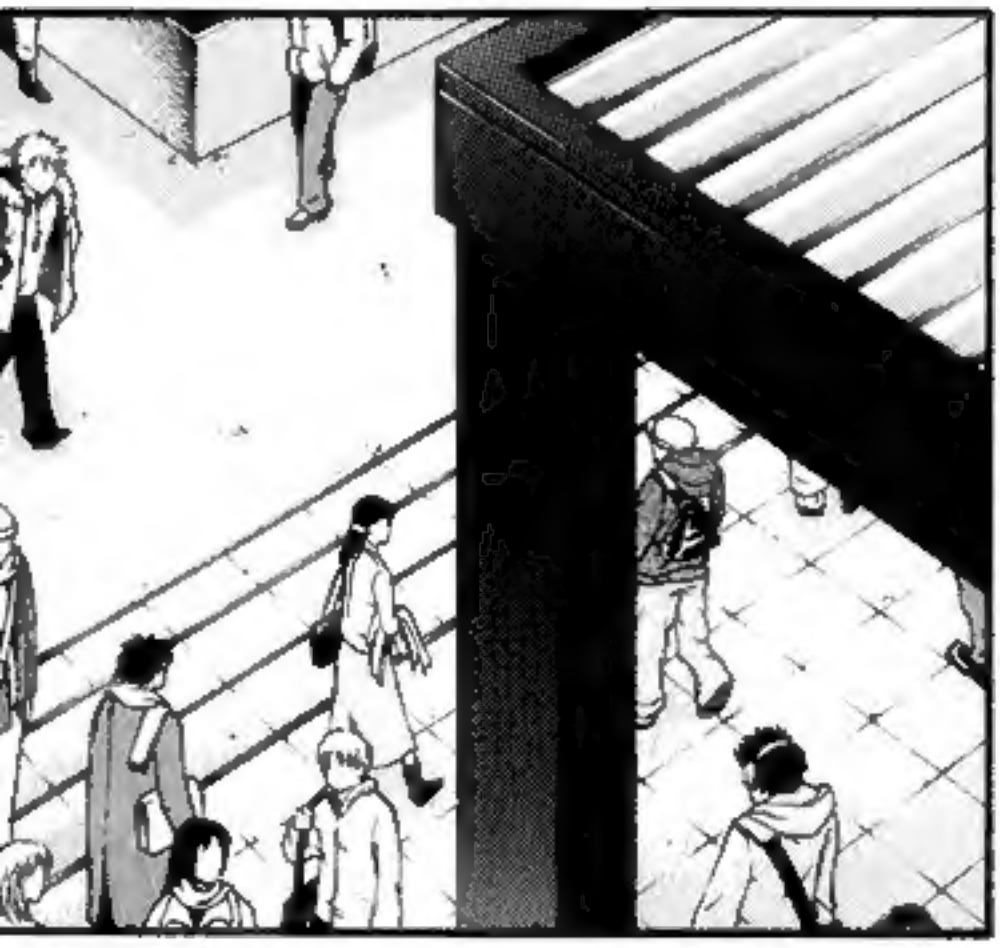
WHOA!

NAUGHTY RUKA!

.....!

カ

YOU GOT OFF WHEN HE KISSED YOU RIGHT?



ゴ…
お…
ん…

OH WOW! BULL'S-EYE!
SO HOW GOOD WAS IT?
SHUT UP!
THAT'S IT! I'M NEVER TELLING YOU ANYTHING AGAIN!!

WINTER BREAK IS OVER.

SO THE DAYS FOR PREPARING FOR FINALS HAVE BEGUN.

.....

LOOK RUKA! ♡

YOUR BELOVED GRANPA IS OVER THERE. ♡

I DON'T WANT TO TALK WITH HIM IN FRONT OF YOU!

YOU'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO LOOK AT US WITH PERVERTED EYES.

13°11

WHAT!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SAY HELLO?

THIS IS HOW IT'LL BE WHEN YOU START GOING OUT

EVERYONE FROM TABISEN WILL BE LOOKING AT YOU TWO WITH EYES LIKE THESE.

UGH!

whisper whisper

IT ONLY...

HURTS AT FIRST... ♡

THEN IT FEELS REALLY GOOD ♡

GIVE ME A BREAK!

WE'RE NOT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...

IT'LL ONLY BE AT FIRST

UNTIL THEY ALL GET USED TO IT.

I'M NOT REALLY...

SCARED OF THAT THOUGH...

I'M SCARED OF SUDDENLY GETTING INTIMATE...

MAYBE IT'S JUST,

RIGHT NOW I FEEL COMFORTABLE WHERE WE ARE AT.

THAT'S WHY...

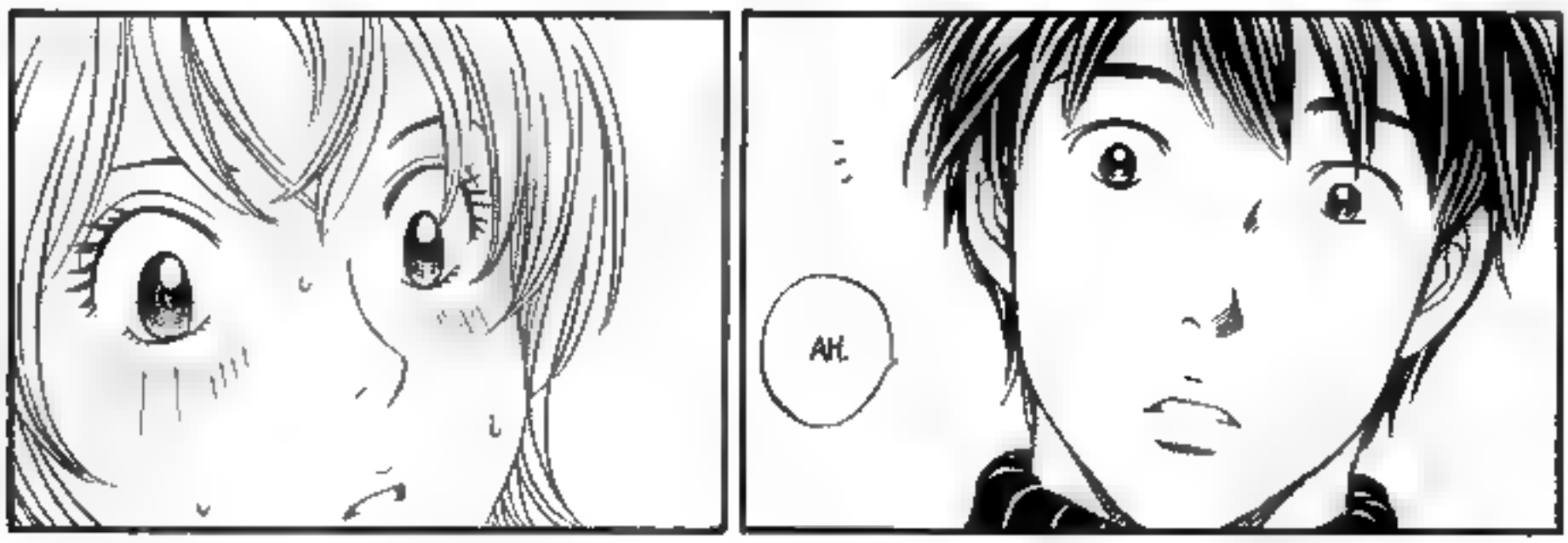
EVEN IF YOU TWO WERE ALL SUPER LOVEY DOVEY?

I CAN'T CONFESS JUST YET!

IF WE BECAME LIKE THAT, I WON'T BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON MY EXAMS!

HOW DID SHE GET LIKE THIS AFTER JUST ONE KISS...?

I'M FINE!
I...
THANK YOU...
THAT LOOKS HEAVY. DO YOU NEED A HAND?
HEY!


AH.

!!

ひょい,

YOU HAVE SOMETHING IN YOUR HAIR.

I...

I GUESS I CAN USE YOUR HELP CARRYING THE BOOKS ...

OK!

!!!

ONCE IT'S OVER IT'LL BE AN INDULGENCE OF HOT SPRINGS RIGHT?

YEAH, IT'S GOING TO BE A HELLISH COUPLE OF DAYS ...

MUST BE ROUGH WRITING 5 PAPERS.

IT MIGHT BE EASIER HAVING EXAMS INSTEAD.

Summer and winter!

OF COURSE!

THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN SAVING UP WITH ALL MY MIGHT!

WOULD YOU... LIKE TO GO SOME-WHERE WITH ME?

ONCE FINALS ARE OVER...

EVEN IF IT'S A SHORT ONE DAY TRIP TO A HOT SPRING...

RUKA-CHAN! GRANPA!

HEY!

TONIGHT THE PREZ IS HAVING A HOT POT PARTY!

YOU'RE BOTH GOING RIGHT?

ALL THE MORE A REASON WHY A BREATHER IS IMPORTANT!

A DRINKING PARTY RIGHT BEFORE EXAMS...?

THERE'S GOING TO BE CRAB, OK? CRAB HOT POT!!

I WANT TO PUT AN END ...

SURE ...

A ONE DAY TRIP SOUNDS GREAT!

TO THE "DAYS OF WAITING."

I...

I HAVE OTHER PLANS.

SO RUKA-CHAN IS COMING!

HMM CRAB! SOUNDS GOOD.

I PROMISED TO GO DRINKING WITH A FRIEND...

WHAT? WORK?

?

IS.. IS IT?

THAT'S PRETTY RARE FOR YOU TO DO THAT BEFORE EXAMS.

OOH?

SHL

30 MINUTES LATE!

SHIMAZU ...

THE FIRST 3 ROUNDS ARE YOUR TREAT KOMAI! ♪

EVEN THOUGH I SAID A "FRIEND" ...

IN FRONT OF RUKA-SAN,

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR 30 MINUTES TOO.

YOU SAID LET'S MEET UP AT THE TICKET GATE RIGHT...?

LET'S START WITH BEER.

FOR THE YAKITORI, TARE DIPPING SAUCE ON THE SIDE? OR SALT?

"NAGISA SHIMAZU" IS NOT "JUST A FRIEND."

THAT SHOULD BE GOOD FOR NOW.

COMING UP!

WE'LL TAKE A COMBO PLATTER WITH TARE AND SALT

SALT

ALSO ONE TOFU SALAD AND TWO CROQUETS.

I'LL GO BUY YOUR BUNS AS WELL.

GET ONE SWEET BEAN BUN AND THEN 3 OF ANY KIND RIGHT?

WAS THE ORDER NOT TO YOUR LIKING?

HM?

.....

I WAS JUST THINKING HOW YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL...

IT'S NOT THAT ...

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

NO,

=3

HOW RUDE!

NORMALLY WHEN YOU MEET UP AFTER TWO YEARS,

YOU'D SAY IT'S BEEN A WHILE OR HOW HAVE YOU BEEN? ETC

THEN YOU START TALKING FROM THERE RIGHT?

I PUT ON MAKEUP AND EVERYTHING.

HEY WHOA!

YOU JUST START TALKING WITH NOT EVEN AN INTRODUCTION!

AT LEAST SAY CHEERS BEFORE YOU START DRINKING!

JEEZ... WHY HASN'T SHE REFINED HER MY PACE APPROACH FROM BEFORE?

チン☆

AH SORRY.

MY THROAT WAS DRY.

SPEAKING OF WHICH,

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH EITHER.

FROM SENIOR YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL,

I HAD A PERSISTENT CRUSH ON HER.

WHEN YOU MEET AN OLD FEMALE FRIEND,

WOULDN'T YOU FLATTER HER A LITTLE AND BY SAYING "OH YOU'VE GOTTEN PRETTIER" AT LEAST?

YEAH?

IF YOU WERE A NORMAL 20 YEAR OLD COLLEGE STUDENT.

ONLY POPULAR GUYS LIKE MY LITTLE BROTHER WOULD BLURT OUT LINES LIKE THAT.

♪ OH HOH.

THE KOMAI BROTHERS ARE THE SAME AS ALWAYS.

YOU JUST DON'T REALIZE IT.

I THINK THERE ARE PLENTY OF GIRLS WHO LIKE YOU.

はは…

LIKE ALWAYS THE UNPOPULAR OLDER BROTHER IS LIVING TOGETHER WITH THE POPULAR LITTLE BROTHER.

WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS WITHOUT WARNING?

AND "INCOMPETENT" WHILE YOU ARE IT.

IT'S NOT THAT YOU ARE "UNPOPULAR." YOU'RE JUST "DENSE,"

WE BOTH LIKED EACH OTHER IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

BUT YOU CONFESSED TOO LATE TO ME SENIOR YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL!

LIKE ME.

YOU NEVER TOOK NOTICE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THAT'S WHY RIGHT NOW...

I'M MAKING THE EFFORT TO CHANGE THAT ABOUT ME!

YOU DON'T NEED TO CHANGE.

YOU'RE FINE THE WAY YOU ARE NOW.

.....

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BE LIKE THAT.

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER...

SHE'S THE SPECIAL GIRL WHO SAID THAT TO ME.

SHE TOLD ME, "I LIKED YOU TOO."

WHEN I WAS REJEC-TED AFTER CONFES-SING,

HUH?

DON'T WE GO THE SAME WAY?

LET'S CALL IT A NIGHT.

I LIVE ON MY OWN AFTER MOVING LAST SPRING TO BE CLOSER TO SCHOOL.

OH...

I SEE ...

IT'S FINE. I'M GOING TO STOP BY MY BOYFRIEND'S JOB.

WANT ME TO DROP YOU OFF?

LET'S GO OUT FOR DRINKS AGAIN AFTER YOUR EXAMS!

IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD ANY EXPECTATIONS. SO WHY DO I FEEL A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED...

Bye.

SHE LETS ME BELIEVE.

THAT IT'LL CERTAINLY HAPPEN FOR ME.

ONE DAY THE TIME WILL COME.

WHEN I LOVE AND I'M LOVED BY SOMEONE.

SHIMAZU'S EXISTENCE,

GIVES ME "THE POWER TO LOVE."

LET'S HAVE FUN! LET'S HAVE FUN! LET'S HAVE FUN!!

WEREN'T YOU HAVING FUN WHILE THE EXAMS WERE GOING ON AS WELL...?

IT'S FINALLY OVER!!

LET'S GATHER EVERYONE UP.

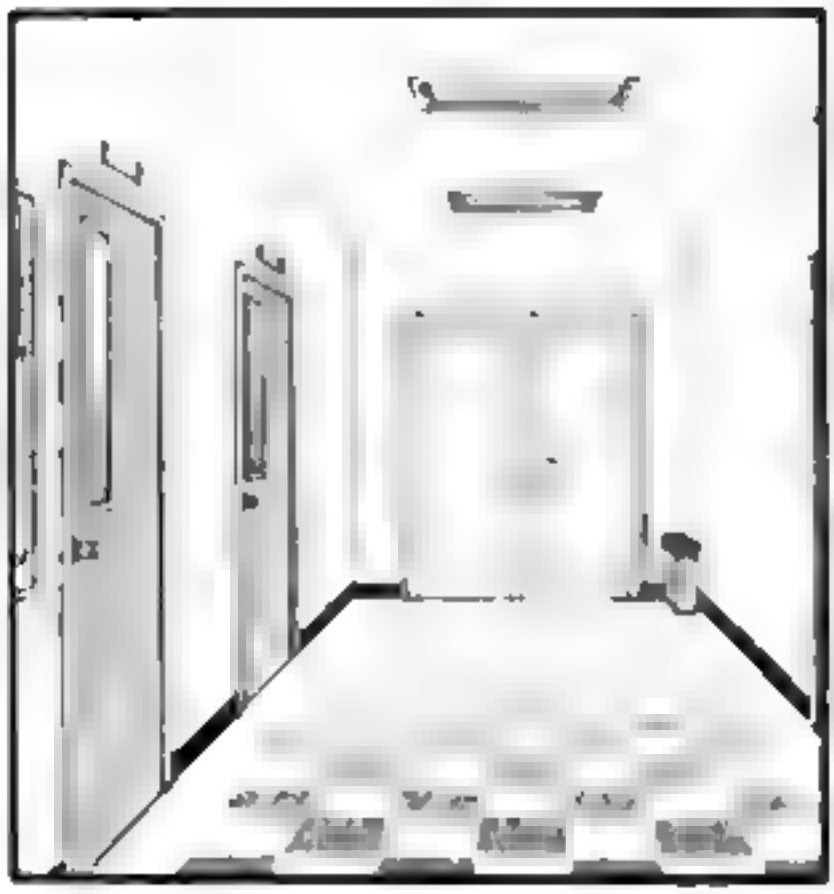
TIME TO CELE-BRATE WITH DRINKS ♡ ♡

AH!

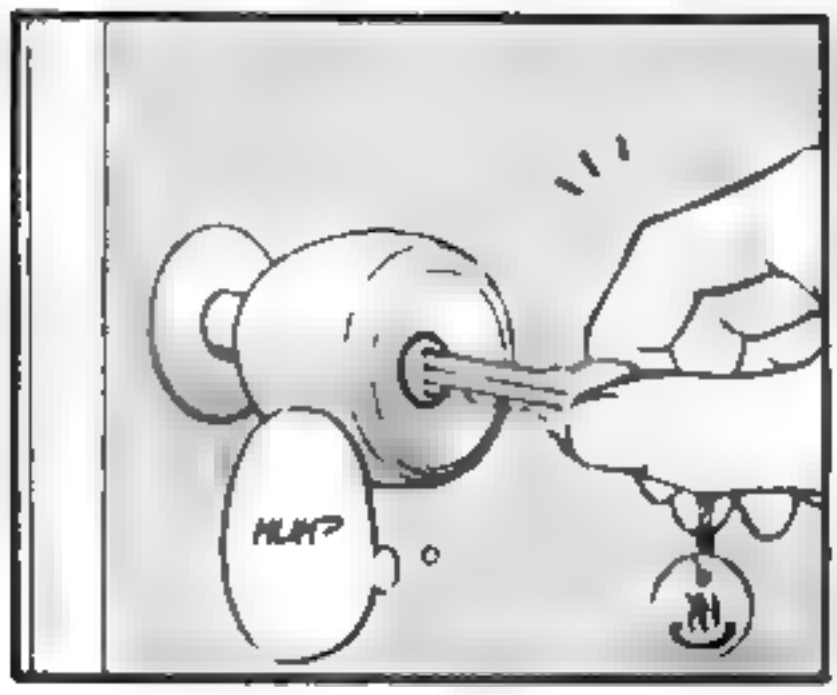
MY CELL-PHONE!

WHAT'S WRONG?

I FORGOT I LEFT IT CHARGING IN THE CLUB ROOM.



THE CLUB ROOM IS ALREADY CLOSED BY NOW
I HAVE A COPY OF THE KEY
PLEASE GO ON AHEAD OF ME TO THE BAR


HUH?

THE DOOR ISN'T LOCKED
SOMEONE MUST BE STILL IN THERE.

HEY
...
DID THEY FORGET TO LOCK UP?
NO ONE IS HERE.
WHAT IS THAT SMELL?
THIS FOUL SMELL,
IS LIKE A KENDO PROTECTOR, OR LIKE AN OLD MAN'S SOCKS...
NO, THIS COULDN'T BE...
HM?

A HOMELESS PERSON!?

U-UHA.

WHAT THE...!

!!

UGH..?

BODY COVERED WITH A TATTERED BLANKET.

THE SOURCE OF THAT FOUL SMELL...

.....!

HEY YOU.

ARE YOU FROM TABISEN?

PITCH BLACK FROM DUST AND GRIME,

SMILING WITH ONE OF HIS FRONT TEETH MISSING.

I'M TAKEKI TSUCHIYA.

A FORMER MEMBER OF THIS CLUB.

WHO HE WAS ...

I HAD A HUNCH ...

CHAPTER 20
THAT GUY

PITCH BLACK FROM THE DUST AND GRIME,

SMILING WITH ONE OF HIS FRONT TEETH MISSING.

THAT GUY,

BODY COVERED WITH A TATTERED BLANKET.

I'M TAKEKI TSUCHIYA.

A FORMER MEMBER OF THIS CLUB.

IT'S HIM.

.....

SHI-ZUKA ...

KOMAI ...

FRESH-MAN?

YOUR NAME?

THIS GUY IS...

RUKA'S ...

GIVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT. ♡

IF POSSIBLE SOMETHING WARM LIKE SOUP!

SO KOMAI-KUN,

AS A SIGN OF OUR MEETING...

IT'S ALL RIGHT! ♡

THANKS FOR THE MEAL! ♡

SORRY THIS IS ALL WE HAVE..

旅と温泉宿

TSU-CHIYA-SAN ...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

SO GOOD! ♡

I HEARD YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO BE WANDERING ABROAD.

I KNEW IT...

I'M NOT...

A BACK PACKER PER SE.

YOU SURE KNOW A LOT.

AM I THAT FAMOUS?

I JUST HEARD YOU WERE A FORMER MEMBER AND A HARDCORE BACK PACKER...

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, YOU JUST LOOK LIKE A HOMELESS PERSON.

Like Snufkin

I WOULD LIKE TO BE CALLED A "TRAVELLER" INSTEAD.

*SNUFKIN FROM MOOMIN

TRUTH IS, I DIDN'T PLAN ON COMING BACK FOR MANY YEARS.

THE GUY,

WHO REJECTED RUKA-SAN AND SHE CAN'T FORGET ABOUT HIM...

HE'S AN AUTHENTIC HOMELESS PERSON!!

E-HEH♡

SINCE I HAVE NO MONEY!

I MOVED OUT OF MY APARTMENT SO I DON'T HAVE A PLACE TO GO. SO I'LL BE STAYING IN THIS CLUB ROOM FOR NOW...

IF THE SCHOOL FINDS OUT THEY WILL SUSPEND OUR CLUB ACTIVITIES!

Y-YOU ...

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!

?

I LIVE WITH MY LITTLE BROTHER WHY...?

THOSE ARE THE RULES!

AM NOT!

ZE~L

CHEAP-SKATE!

☆

LIVE BY YOURSELF?

DO YOU...

THAT WORKS OUT THEN.

FOR THE TIME BEING LET'S MAKE YOUR PLACE A LITTLE LIVELIER!

AT A GLANCE YOU SEEM LIKE A STRAIGHT LACED GUY, BUT YOU ARE MORE OF THE RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE TYPE THAT JUST CAN'T SAY NO WHEN IT COMES TO TAKING CARE OF OTHERS.

W-WH-WHY MY PLACE!?

I-I'M!

か あ?

I'M NOT THAT NICE OF A PERSON!

I'M REALLY GOOD AT PICKING OUT THOSE KINDS OF PEOPLE.

I WOULDN'T CALL THAT MUCH OF AN ACHIEVEMENT!

I COMPLETED MY COLLEGE DEGREE IN 7 YEARS. SO LEAVE IT TO ME I CAN GET RESULTS!

IN THAT CASE, I'LL LOOK AFTER HIS STUDIES.

JUST HOW OLD IS HE!

MY BROTHER IS IN THE MIDDLE OF STUDYING FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS!

IT'LL BE A BOTHER!

IF HE DOESN'T WANT TO, I'LL ASK ONE OF OTHER CLUB MEMBERS TO LET ME STAY WITH THEM.

LET'S ASK YOUR LITTLE BROTHER.

CLUB MEMBERS...

ONE OF THE OTHER...

I'LL GO GET MY CAR.

WAIT HERE AND DON'T GO ANYWHERE.

SO IT'S OKAY!?

WOW THANKS! ♡

I THINK ...

MY BROTHER WOULD WELCOME THE IDEA BECAUSE IT SOUNDS FUN TO HIM.

!

I'M ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO HIM ASKING RUKA-SAN.

HE REALLY IS,

A VERY CARING BROTHER.

HUH!

HE SAYS SOMETHING CAME UP.

THE HELL? THEN THERE'S NO POINT IF HE DOESN'T SHOW UP

GRANPA ISN'T COMING?

I WAS PLANNING ON TEASING HIM A BIT TOO.

HEY..! NACHI!!

WELL, RUKA HAS FINALLY ...

HUH? ABOUT WHAT?

CON..!!

IT'S ALRIGHT, NO?

YOU SAID YOU WILL CONFESS ONCE FINALS ARE OVER.

.....

CON-FESS!?

TO GRANPA!?

WHO ELSE WOULD IT BE?

HEY YOU TWO!!

IF YOU TELL HIM BEFORE I DO, OUR FRIENDSHIP IS OVER!!

WE'LL TALK LATER!

EH WELL THAT'S...

WHY IS HE STILL LIKE THAT ...

YUU! SHOW HIM WHERE THE SHOWER IS!

NOT SINCE THE TIME YOU BROUGHT THOSE 4 GIRLS HERE!

Daodorizing ~ spray

THAT WAS QUITE THE SHOCKED

TO THINK YOU KNEW SOMEONE LIKE THAT BRO!

.....

THANKS FOR THE SHOWER.

!!

HE'S ...

...HUGE!

ALL I KNOW,

IS THAT HE IS "THE GUY WHO MADE RUKA-SAN CRY."

AAH!

I'M REVIVED!

WE'RE ABOUT THE SAME SIZE I WISE.

AH YOU CAN BORROW SOME OF MINE...

ALSO A RAZOR.

WOULD BE GREAT IF YOU CAN LEND ME SOMETHING TO WEAR.

SON OF A BITCH.

SO I WAS LOITERING AROUND AFRICA FOR HALF A YEAR.

THERE I MET AN INTERESTING ENGLISH PERSON.

WHY DID HE NEED TO BE HANDSOME TOO?

BUT WOW YOU MANAGED TO GET INTO AN AIRPORT LOOKING LIKE THAT.

NO WAY MAN.

AT THAT TIME I WAS MORE PRESENTABLE.

I DECIDED TO HELP OUT WITH THAT PERSON'S JOB.

WHEN WE WERE LEAVING FOR ENGLAND,

I WAS DEPORTED BECAUSE MY PASSPORT HAD EXPIRED.

……

SO IT TOOK ABOUT ONE MONTH TO WALK BACK TO TOKYO WHILE SLEEPING OUTSIDE.

I HAD NO MONEY.

THIS IS WHY I LOOKED LIKE THAT.

OSAKA?

THEY DIDN'T LET YOU PICK WHERE YOU WANTED TO GO?

I WAS DEPORTED TO OSAKA.

WELL THEY JUST WANTED ME GONE.

OR HAD THEM CONTACT SOMEONE YOU KNOW FOR HELP?

WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK THE COPS TO LEND YOU MONEY?

IN ADDITION TO BEING QUITE ODD …

THAT'S …

THE GUY RUKA-SAN IS ENGROSSED WITH.

THEN IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AS MUCH FUN.

ん
ん
ん

THAT'S A LITTLE ...

THAT IS UNTIL YOUR NEXT TRIP.

YOU SHOULD JUST STAY WITH US.

AFTER JUST ONE NIGHT.

HE'S ALREADY CALLING HIM "TSUCCHI."

TSUCCHI HOW LONG ARE YOU STAYING WITH US?

UNTIL I FIND WORK AND MY OWN PLACE I SUPPOSE.

.....

I CAN'T BRING GIRLS INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S HOUSE LIKE THAT

That's just too much.

WHY NOT?

PLEASE STOP THAT KIND OF TALK WITH A MINOR SO EARLY IN THE MORNING!

TSU-CHIYA-SAN!

BUT SINCE I'M FINALLY BACK IN JAPAN, I NEED TO SATISFY SOME JAPANESE GIRLS!

EVEN SO,

WHY DID HE REJECT RUKA-SAN THEN...?

WHAT A GUY!

ON TOP OF BEING WEIRD, HE'S A LEWD SKIRT CHASER!

IF HIS REASON WAS THAT HE WANTED TO BE WITH AN INDEFINITE AMOUNT OF GIRLS I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM!

Good morning.
Congrats on finishing your finale!
It's too bad you could not make it to last night's gathering.

I'm looking forward to it while I prepare for my trip

Ruka.

I'm immediately setting off on a trip together with Nachi to the hot springs

This time we plan on going to Nagano.

THIS TEXT SHOULD BE A HAPPY OCCUR-RENCE.

YET I'M HAVING TROUBLE REPLYING.

I know you postponed our trip until Yuu-kun is done with his entrance exams.

But we'll definitely go on that one day trip!

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD TELL HER THAT "HE" IS LIVING WITH ME.

IT WOULD BE GREAT IF HE LEFT ON ANOTHER TRIP,

OF COURSE I DON'T WANT TO TELL HER.

WHILE RUKA-SAN DOESN'T KNOW YET.

WHEN SHE FINDS OUT...

SOMETHING LIKE "YOU SNEAKY GOOD FOR NOTHING!"

I HID IT FROM HER. WHAT WILL SHE THINK OF ME?

OR WILL SHE JUST LAUGH IT OFF?

BUT,

IT'S POSSIBLE SOMEONE ELSE WOULD TELL HER.

SO IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HIDE IT FROM HER...

AH! WHAT SHOULD I DO!

ヘタコイ 4

YES, I FINISHED YESTER-DAY

AH SO DID I.

I'M FREE TONIGHT. LET'S GO DRINK.

KOMAI?

ARE YOUR FINALS OVER?

AH...

THAT'S IT!

I'LL JUST ASK SHIMAZU FOR ADVICE.

I CAN PROBABLY GET GOOD ADVICE FROM A FEMALE PERSPECTIVE!

SURE!

LET'S GO!

I HAVE A GUEST SO I CAN'T STAY OUT LATE IS THAT FINE?

ALRIGHT. SEE YOU AT 5 THEN!

そば

I DON'T CAFE & BAR

IT'S FINE BY ME, BUT IF YOU WANT LET'S HAVE TEA INSTEAD?

IT'S A LITTLE EARLY TO GO DRINKING ...

IF YOU'RE FINE WITH IT LET'S HAVE SOME DRINKS THEN.

IT'S A BIT ANNOYING, BUT LET'S GO TO THE SAME PLACE.

IT'LL BE EMBARRASSING ASKING HER FOR LOVE ADVICE SOBER.

GRANPA!?

WOW!

I WAS REALLY SURPRISED JUST NOW!

HOW DID I RUN INTO YAJI-SAN OF ALL PEOPLE...!?

THEN SAYING SHE'S JUST A DRINKING BUDDY! UNBELIEVABLE!

GRANPA WITH A GIRL!

ON TOP OF THAT A SUPER BEAUTY TOO!

NO WAY!

YOU REMEMBERED!

I'M IMPRESSED!

.....

HEY! HEY!

I WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL.

DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

CAPTAIN OF THE TABLE TENNIS TEAM.

I'VE BEEN DATING THE SAME GUY SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.

BY THE WAY WHY ARE YOU HANGING OUT WITH HIM..?

YOU MUST BE SINGLE RIGHT?

HE IS WEAK WITH ALCOHOL.

SO I ENJOY DRINKING WITH KOMAI.

YOU HAVE?

WHY WOULD HE NEED TO ALLOW IT?

THE SAME CONDITION APPLIES TO BOTH OF US.

SO YOUR BOYFRIEND WOULD ALLOW IT.

WELL A GUY LIKE HIM IS SAFE.

OOH?

THAT'S SO DRY.

AFTER THREE YEARS THAT'S HOW WE ARE.

WE WOULD HATE BEING RESTRAINED LIKE THAT

HE OFTEN HANGS OUT WITH OTHER GIRLS FROM HIS CLUB.

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M CHEATING ON HIM.

AB.

LET'S SWITCH TOPICS. SHIMAZU-CHAN WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE?

IS THAT SO...?

IN THE END,

YAJI-SAN DOMINATED THE FLOW OF CONVER-SATION.

HER BLUNT WAY OF TALKING IS SO ENTICING.

SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND SO IT'S USELESS.

OBVIOUSLY I COULDN'T ASKS HER FOR ADVICE EITHER.

SHIMAZU-CHAN IS AWESOME!

BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S GOING WELL, RIGHT?

HER TONE WHEN SHE TALKS ABOUT HER BOYFRIEND IS VERY DETACHED.

THAT MEANS SHE'S VERY UNHAPPY!

IT'S NOT?

SO DENSE! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE STILL A VIRGIN!

THEN,

WHY IS HER BOYFRIEND OK WITH HER GOING OUT ALONE WITH ANOTHER GUY FOR DRINKS?

SHE ALWAYS TALKS IN THAT MANNER.

SHE EVEN SAID SHE'S GOING TO STOP BY HER BOYFRIEND'S JOB TONIGHT.

HE'S PROBABLY DISTANT AS WELL, OK?

DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S BEEN 3 YEARS THAT'S JUST UNHEARD OF.

WHICH MEANS I HAVE AN OPENING!!

HELL NO.

LEND ME A HAND GRANPA!

SHIMAZU IS...

THAT'S JUST TOO COLD MAN!?

W-WHY ...!?

DID YOU REFUSED ME SO FLATLY!

PLEASE DON'T GO AFTER HER WITH SUCH HALF ASSED INTENTIONS.

ANYONE BUT HER ...

SO IF I PURSUE HER IT'S A DISGRACE?

PLEASE DON'T DISGRACE HER!

SHE'S THE GIRL OF MY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES FROM MY TEEN YEARS!

IF YOU TELL HIM BEFORE I DO, OUR FRIENDSHIP IS OVER!!

NO-
LOOK!

HM?

SO ON TOP OF GETTING RUKA-CHAN YOU'RE TRYING TO COVET HER AS WELL?

SO ALL YOU SHOULD BE DOING IS FOCUSING ON HER!

YOU'RE JUST ONE STEP AWAY BEFORE YOU GET WITH HER!

JUST ONE MORE STEP.

.....

I ALSO THINK THAT I WILL REACH HER...

WITH ONE MORE STEP.

AH WELCOME BACK.

HEY BRO.

STOP PLAYING AROUND AND STUDY!

T-TSU, HOLD UP! THAT IS JUST EXTREMELY RIDICULOUS!

SO I WAS THE ONLY ONE GREETING PEOPLE BUCK NAKED IN THE WOODS!

YUU!

I WAS NOT! WE WERE TAKING A BREAK!

I WAS CONFI-DENT.

RELAX, I'M WATCHING HIS STUDIES PROPERLY.

Good evening.
I know the reply is
a little late

Today . went out
for drinks with a
friend and Yaji-san.

Are you enjoying
yourself fully at
the hot springs?

AT LEAST UNTIL YESTER-DAY ...

I'm looking forward to
our trip as well.

Well then have a good trip

Komai.

ピッ

RESET

送信しました

OK

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CHAPTER 21
MEMORIES

IT'S EMBARRASSING SENDING ONE OF ME...

SO?

WHAT'S THE POINT OF SENDING HIM A PIC OF ME?

足湯♡

Hello!
This is fully enjoying herself, Ruka!

My body is all swollen from spring hopping!♡

HUH?

THEN I'LL SEND HIM ONE OF YOU INSTEAD...

PRETTY RARE FOR MIKE-SAN TO SEND A TEXT.

OH...

WHAT DOES SHE SAY?

Nachi is enjoying the local booze more than the hot springs.

She's been in very high spirits since noon

Talk to you later!

WHAT?

IS IT BAD NEWS?

……!

"SORRY FOR INTRUDING ON YOUR TRIP."

"I HEARD FROM MANY PEOPLE..."

"THAT THEY HAVE SEEN A MAN THAT LOOKS LIKE TSUCCHI AROUND."

"IF HE'S REALLY BACK IN JAPAN, YOU KNOW IT'S CUSTOMARY FOR TABISEN MEMBERS TO THROW A PARTY

RUKA AND HIM HAVE A BIT OF HISTORY... SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?"

……!

LET THEM THROW HIM A PARTY, OK?

IT'S FINE ...

.....

SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO FUTURE PREZ?

SO IT SAYS.

THAT JUST MAKES ME LOOK LIKE I'M STILL BEING DRAGGED DOWN BY HIM.

WHY SHOULD I DO THAT?

WELL.

IT'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS YOU DON'T GO.

I HAVE GRANPA.

I'M FINE WITH IT.

TSUCCHI... HUH?

ANYWAY!

LET'S GO TO ANOTHER BATH. ♡

.....

IS ALREADY
A DISTANT...

TO ME
TSUCCHI,

DISTANT
MEMORY...

TRAVEL AND HOT SPRINGS ENTHUSIASTS

はぁあ♡

ガチャ

EXCUSE ME!

WHAT A HOT GUY!

WOW ....♡

I'M RUKA SHINOHARA. A FRESHMAN STUDYING LITERATURE.

YES!

INTERESTED IN JOINING?

I'M PRETTY LUCKY TO HAVE HIM AS ONE OF MY SENIORS! ♡

EVEN THOUGH I HEARD IT'S MOSTLY GIRLS WHO JOIN THIS CLUB,

I DECIDED TO JOIN THIS CLUB EVER SINCE THE OPEN HOUSE!

I TOLD MYSELF IF ACCEPTED I'D DEFINITELY JOIN THIS CLUB AND GO ON A HOT SPRING SPREE!

THERE ARE NO MEMBERS HERE AT THE MOMENT.

SO JUST SIT HERE AND WAIT.

SUPER SENIOR ...

SO YOU HAVE BEEN HERE OVER 4 YEARS THEN?

HMM ...

MORE LIKE,

ME?

I'M A SUPER SENIOR. I'M JUST HOLDING DOWN THE FORT.

HUH?

YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER?

I'VE BEEN HERE FOR 7 YEARS.

I'VE BEEN LEFT BACK 3 TIMES NOW.

.....

THAT'S WHAT, I WHO RECENTLY TURNED 19 THOUGHT OF HIM.

"HE'S A LOST CAUSE NO MATTER HOW HANDSOME!"

THEY CALLED HIM TAKEKI "TSUCCHI" TSUCHIYA BECAUSE HE WAS 25 YEARS OLD AND WAS LEFT BACK 3 TIMES.

BUT AS EXPECTED,

IF HE DOESN'T GRADUATE SOON HE'LL BE IN TROUBLE.

THAT'S WHY HE'S DEVOTED TO HIS SCHOOLWORK THIS YEAR.

I HEARD HE'S A VERY ACTIVE BACK-PACKER.

HE'S BEEN LEFT BACK SO MANY TIMES BECAUSE HE WAS WANDERING ABROAD.

ABOUT TSUCCHI.

NOTHING WRONG WITH DOING SOME INTELLIGENCE GATHERING ON A HOT GUY!

BUT OF COURSE!

YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT HIM...

I THOUGHT I BETTER NOT ASSOCIATE WITH HIM AT ALL.

UGH!

HE'S THE WORST TYPE OF GUY!

BUT HE'S PRETTY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS.

SEEMS LIKE HE'S VERY PROMISCUOUS TOO.

YAWN SO SLEEPY!

COME ON NEW GIRLS!

LEND ME YOUR LAPS!

酒屋ニュー渋谷

ごろごろ

OH

.....

COME! COME! COME HERE! ♪

BEER

EAT MORE AND GET SOME MEAT ON YOU.

LIKE ON YOUR ASS, THIGHS, AND CHEST!

NACHI IS TOO HARD.

ぎゅっ

ニヤニヤ

RUKA!

UGH ...

COME HERE!

THAT'S AN ORDER!

MY CHEST HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BEING A LAP PILLOW!

YOU SUCK!

HOW IS HE A GOOD GUY?

HE'S JUST A SEXUAL HARASSING OLD GEEZER!

.....

AHHH!

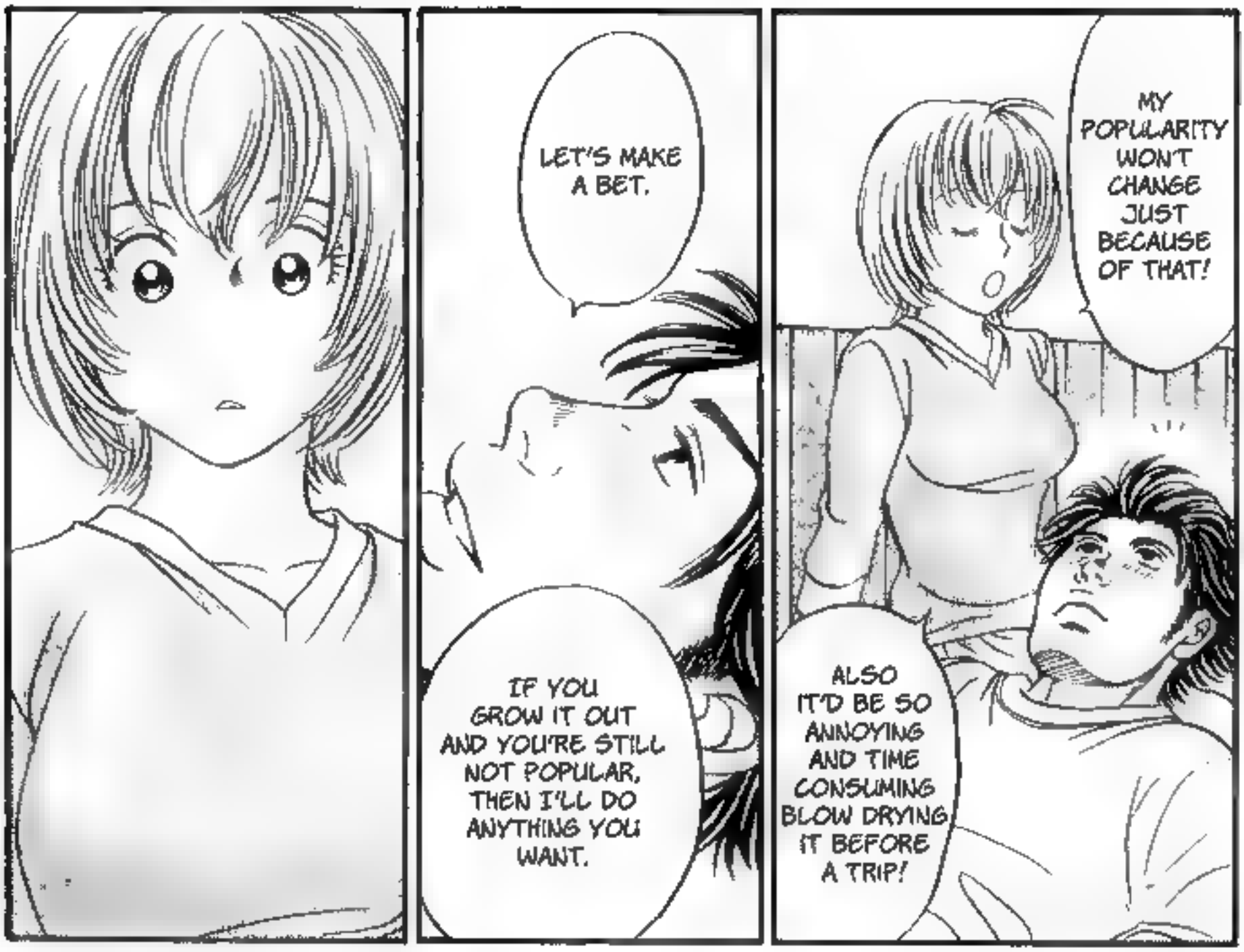
THIS IS HEAVEN!

HEY RUKA

YOU'LL BE HOTTER!

YOU SHOULD GROW OUT YOUR HAIR

AND YOU'LL BE 10 TIMES MORE POPULAR


LET'S MAKE A BET.
IF YOU GROW IT OUT AND YOU'RE STILL NOT POPULAR, THEN I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT.
MY POPULARITY WON'T CHANGE JUST BECAUSE OF THAT!
ALSO IT'D BE SO ANNOYING AND TIME CONSUMING BLOW DRYING IT BEFORE A TRIP!

THAT WAS THE PART THAT INTERESTED ME THE MOST.

"I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT"

PUTTING THE WHOLE POPULARITY THING ASIDE.

TSUCCHI IS REALLY INTO YOU.

I THINK THAT,

IN THE CLUB ROOM, IN THE CLASSROOM, AT PARTIES, HE'S ALWAYS THERE NEXT TO YOU.

YEAH THAT'S TRUE BUT,

OH?

I THINK THAT AS LONG AS IT'S FEMALE HE'S INTO ANYONE.

LET ME HAVE TASTE!

OH!

I KNEW IT! HE'S INTO HUGE TITS.

YOU TWO ARE EATING SOME GOOD STUFF!

STOP SAYING HUGE TITS!

NACHI IS BETTER OFF GETTING FAT.

THAT'S WHY I CAN'T TAKE ONE DROP OF HER SOUP!

I'M NOT GIVING YOU ANY OF MINE. GET SOME FROM NACHI!

にな にな にな にな

THAT'S VERY DISRES-PECTFUL TO THE FOOD!

I WON'T ALLOW IT!

DON'T LEAVE A SINGLE DROP!

Just the soup though.

IF IT'S SOUP SURE TAKE SOME.

I WON'T EAT ALL OF IT ANYWAY.

WHEN I REALIZED IT..

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT GIVING YOU ONE DROP!

YOU TOO RUKA!

EVEN IF YOU'RE ON A DIET OR YOU DIE DON'T LEAVE ANY!

TSUCCHI WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR SUMMER VACATION?

"TSUCCHI" WAS ALWAYS NEXT TO ME.

Still has some general education credits left

NOT MUCH BESIDES WORKING AT A SEMINAR LODGE.

A FRIEND OF MINE IS LETTING ME STAY AT HIS PRIVATE LODGE.

SO IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'LL BE PICKING UP GIRLS AT THE BEACH?

I'M NOT SURE WHEN IT HAPPENED, BUT IT BECAME MATTER OF FACT

IS THAT JEALOUSY I HEAR?

OH?

I WON'T MAKE THEM CRY.

I ALWAYS TELL THEM NO STRINGS ATTACHED FROM THE START

NOPE.

IT'S PITY FOR THE GIRLS YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE CRY.

THERE ARE PLENTY. THIS IS...

NOT AT ALL.

IF YOU TELL THEM THAT, THERE IS NO GIRL WHO WOULD GO ALONG WITH THAT

THERE IS A STUPID GIRL RIGHT HERE AS WELL.

RIGHT ...

SO HARSH.

OH YES, STUPID GIRLS.

TO ME THEY ARE LIKE GODDESSES.

NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM THAT SUMMER.

I FELT SO LONELY...

はぁ。

LONG HAIR HAS TO BE FLUTTERING IN THE WIND!

TIED UP HAIR IS NO GOOD!

ラーメン 500
タンメン 500
ハンバーグ 500

I GUESS I SHOULD START TYING IT UP.

OH JEEZ! MY HAIR KEEPS GETTING IN THE WAY!

I GREW OUT MY HAIR AND MY POPULARITY HASN'T GONE UP, YOU KNOW?

SAY,

HOLD UP.

YOU GREW IT SEMI LONG. I SAID "LONG HAIR".

SO THEN? WHAT SHOULD I ASK YOU TO DO?

YOU REMEMBER THAT YOU PROMISED TO DO ANYTHING I WANTED? ♡

NO ONE IS GIVING ME ANY ATTENTION.

DOESN'T MATTER HOW LONG I GROW IT OUT IT WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

.....

SINCE WE'RE ALWAYS TOGETHER.

IT'S BECAUSE THEY THINK WE ARE DATING.

LET THEM THINK WE'RE HAVING SEX TOO.

THAT'S GREAT, RIGHT?

SO?

ANY GUY THAT DOESN'T HAVE THE GUTS TO STEAL YOU AWAY FROM ME,

HE IS NOT WORTH GIVING THE PRECIOUS VIRGINITY OF OUR TABISEN GIRLS TO.

!

くぅ…

JUST CHATTING FOR A BIT, AND IT'S BLATANTLY OBVIOUS.

YOU'RE SO TRANSPARENT.

VIR..!?

THAT HE WAS IN LOVE WITH ME.

THAT I GET AROUND?

IT WAS SO OBVIOUS …

W-WELL …

THAT GOES FOR YOU AS WELL!

I WON'T!

I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO MAKE HIM SAY IT!

DON'T LEAVE ANY SOUP!

I BROUGHT FOOD!

PARDON THE INTRUSION.

HEY...!

TANGE-RINES ...?

I'M SHARING THEM WITH YOU, SINCE ONE OF MY RELATIVES SENT ME A BOX. ♡

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE COMING OVER TO A GUY'S ROOM, OK?

PHEW ...

THE KOTATSU IS THE BEST!

YOU KNOW ...

NOTHING WRONG WITH COMING OVER, AND EATING TANGERINES UNDER A KOTATSU.

THAT SHOULD BE MY LINE!

RELAX IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO ATTACK YOU.

HE'S GETTING WORKED UP ABOUT IT!

I'M DONE FOR TODAY

I'M GOING TO TAKE A BATH THEN GO TO BED.

HOW IS YOUR THESIS COMING ALONG?

I'LL BE GOOD AND EAT MY TANGERINES QUIETLY. SO PLEASE CONTINUE WORKING.

I'LL BE HERE EATING.

OH OK.

THEN GO TAKE YOUR BATH.

A LOT! ♡

HOW MANY DO YOU PLAN ON EATING?

GO HOME AFTER YOU'RE DONE.

"K...

I PREPARED MYSELF FOR THIS.

.....

.....

THE REST IS UP TO HIM.

IF HE WANTS ME,

HE SHOULD SAY IT.

THAT "ALL I NEED IS YOU."

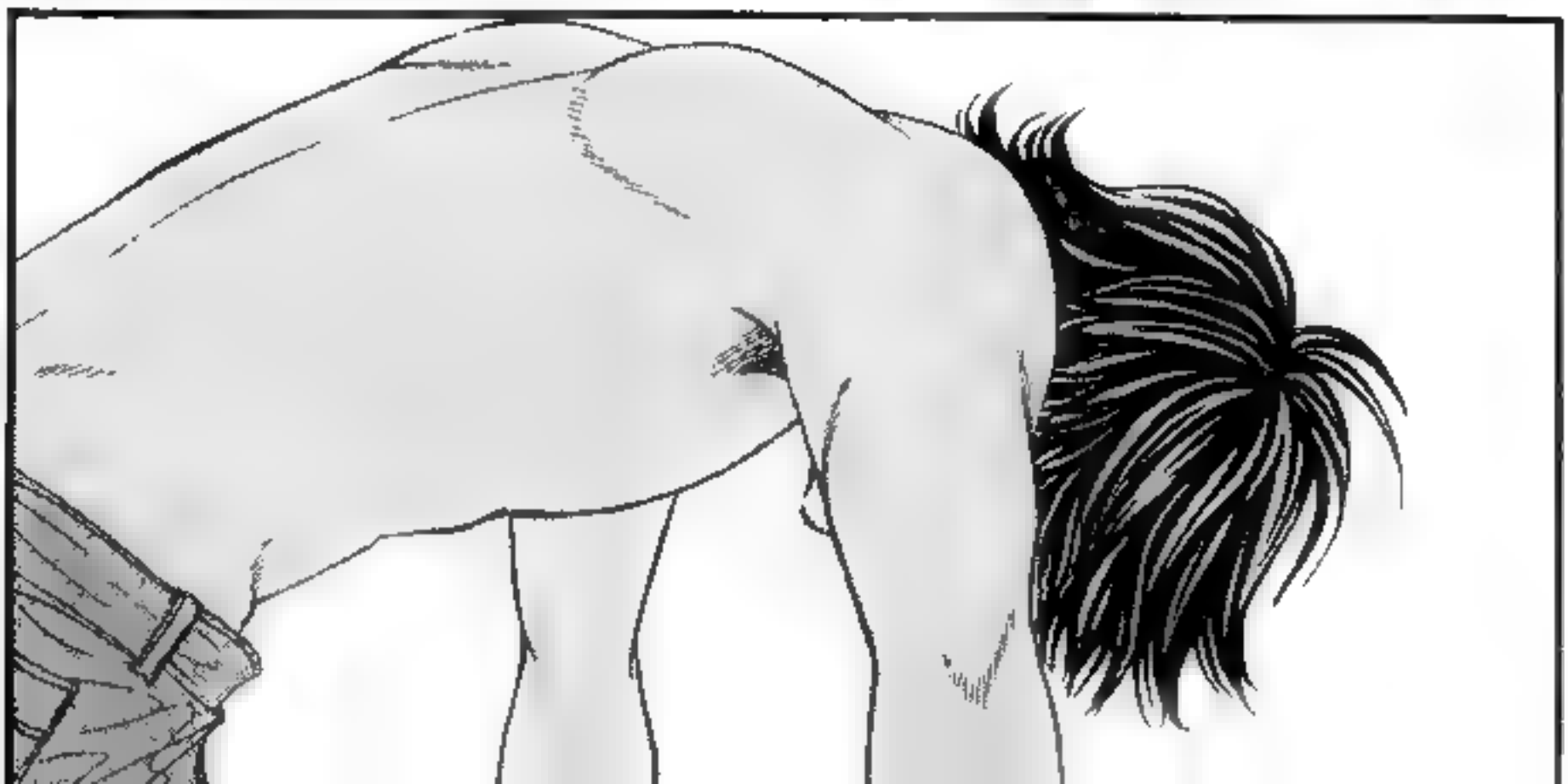
WAKE UP,

RUKA!

RUKA

...

IF YOU DON'T WAKE UP I'LL DEFLOWER YOU.



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TSU...!

YOU JUST LEFT ME THERE. WHERE DID YOU GO?

MAH-JONG.

A FRIEND CALLED TO INVITE ME.

I TRIED WAKING YOU UP, BUT YOU DID NOT WAKE UP.

BULL-SHIT!

AND YET HE TRIED TO KISS ME...

I WAS AWAKE THE WHOLE TIME.

WHY DID YOU LEAVE?

WHY DIDN'T HE TRY ANYTHING?

I HAD NO IDEA WHY.

DESPITE THE THAT HE WANTED TO SLEEP WITH ME...

CHAPTER 22 SELFISHNESS

I WENT TO WORK AT THE ARIMA HOT SPRINGS.

WINTER VACATION DURING MY FRESHMAN YEAR,

THAT'S BECAUSE HE'S MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU! ♡ ♡

THAT'S..!

THINK SO...?

YOU...

I SHARED A ROOM WITH KURUMI-CHAN. WE WOULD STAY UP ALL THE TIME GOSSIPING ABOUT LOVE.

キャ——!

HE KISSED YOU WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING AND JUST LEFT..

THAT'S LIKE THOSE ROMANTIC SOAP OPERAS! ♡

I THINK THE PART WHERE HE DIDN'T EVEN TRY ANYTHING...

YET HE SLEEPS AROUND WITH ANY OTHER GIRL IS STRANGE.

BUT ...

HE'LL PROBABLY USE THE TIME THAT I'M HERE TO SCREW AROUND.

HE KEPT PRESSURING ME TO COME HERE SINCE THIS WOULD BE A GOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

I WONDER ABOUT THAT.

AFTER HE MET YOU,

HE'S PROBABLY NOT RIGHT?

LEFT BACK THREE YEARS

YEAH ...

THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFICULTIES TO DEAL WITH.

PROMISCUOUS

BUT I GUESS I DO LOVE HIM.

WANDERLUST

AND YET YOU STILL LOVE HIM.

NO! THAT'S SO MORTIFYING!

THEN IT LOOKS LIKE HE HAS ME IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.

STOP BEING STUBBORN AND TELL HIM YOU LOVE HIM.

TELL HIM TO STOP SLEEPING AROUND WITH OTHER GIRLS.

THE GRIN ON HIS FACE ALL FULL OF HIMSELF LISTENING TO ME CONFESS TO HIM!

I CAN SEE IT NOW!

YOU ARE 6 YEARS YOUNGER AND A VIRGIN.

HIS AGE IS POINTLESS. HE'S JUST A PERVERTED OLD GEEZER...

はぁ～ん♡

OH THAT MANLY CAREFREE ATTITUDE FROM OLDER GUYS IS SO COOL! ♡

IT'S PROBABLY HARDER FOR HIM TO COME OUT AND SAY IT

WHILE TALKING WITH KURUMI-CHAN,

IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!

ぽしぽしぽしぽし

EVEN THOUGH HE'S A PLAYER, HE WON'T LAY A HAND ON THE GIRL HE LOVES!

IT'S LIKE THE TRUE PATH IN A ROMANCE MANGA! ♡ ♡

MY LOVE WAS A LIKE SPECIAL BEAUTIFUL FAIRY TALE.

I STARTED TO BELIEVE THAT,

I BECAME TRAPPED IN MY OWN DELUSIONS...

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ピンポーン

.....

TSUCCHI LOOK SNOW!

THERE'S SO MUCH SNOW PILED UP!

YAY! FRESH SNOW!

……

サクッ

サクッ

サクッ

LET'S GO MAKE A SNOWMAN ON CAMPUS!

HAVE SOME COMPASSION, WHY DO I HAVE TO GET UP AT 7 A.M. TO MAKE A SNOWMAN?

I WANT TO MAKE IT BEFORE THE SNOW GETS DIRTY FROM EVERYONE STEPPING ON IT!

YEAH! YOU'RE THE ONLY ECSTATIC KID HERE LEAVING FOOT PRINTS BEHIND.

FOR REAL?

USUALLY IN THE MORNING THE SNOW ON THE FIELD STAYS FRESH.

SNOW NEVER PILES UP LIKE THIS BACK HOME SO IT MADE ME VERY HAPPY.

STILL!

TSUCCHI USUALLY WENT ALONG WITH ALL MY SELFISH WHIMS.

OH FOR THE LOVE OF..

DON'T MIX IT WITH MUD, OK?

GATHER SNOW WITH THIS.

HERE!

EVEN IF HE BITCHED AND MOANED,

THAT'S WHY...

(ほ (31 ,,

AH I'M GETTING ALL SWEATY

TSUCCHI HOLD THIS.

I'M HOT TOO...

IF I WANTED TO BE SPOILED I WOULD ALWAYS GET MY WAY.

むすぅ

EVEN IF HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.

HIS FEELINGS CLEARLY CAME ACROSS.

HEY WHAT ARE YOU ...!!

MY FINGERS JUST NOW!

IT WAS A FINGER KISS! ♡

THOSE WERE...

DID YOU REALLY THINK I KISSED YOU?

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!

.....

YOU SHOULD SEE HOW RED YOUR FACE IS!

OH WOW YOU REALLY DID!

.....

YOU BITCH ...

PLEASE YOU WERE SO HAPPY...

HOLD UP RUKA!

YOU SHITTY BRAT!

"!"

SERVES YOU RIGHT!

THAT'S RETRIBUTION FOR TEASING YOUR ELDERS!

THAT WAS PUNISHMENT FOR PLAYING DUMB ABOUT KISSING ME!

I'M GOING TO TURN YOU INTO A SNOWMAN!

I'LL NEVER SAY IT.

I WON'T LET YOU DO THAT AGAIN!

ONE MORE SHO...

YOU'LL NEVER HEAR ME SAY "I LOVE YOU♡" FIRST!

BRING IT ON THEN!

LOOKS LIKE THAT'S THE ONLY PLACE SPRING HAS SPRUNG.

OH MY

FLIRTING FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.

MY FEELINGS SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH TO HIM AS WELL.

LET'S GO WARM UP IN THE CLUB ROOM.

Aunoo!

EVEN WITHOUT SAYING A WORD,

TRAVEL AND HOT SPRINGS ENTHUSIASTS

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

EVERYONE HAS BEEN SAYING WE ARE ALREADY HAVING SEX FOR A LONG TIME NOW.

IT'LL BE BAD FOR YOU IF WEIRD RUMORS START UP

IN MY MIND,

WE ARE ALREADY LOVERS.

JUST HURRY UP AND MAKE ME YOUR LOVER JUST LIKE THOSE RUMORS...

AT THE END OF SPRING BREAK,

NACHI AND I MOVED IN TOGETHER.

I GOT A TV STAND FROM MIKE-SAN.

ALSO...

WE'LL USE A KOTATSU AS A TABLE.

I WANT A SOFA HERE.

SHOULD WE BUY A BUNK BED?

YOU KNOW FOR WHEN TSUCCHI SLEEPS OVER. ♡

DIDN'T TSUCCHI MOVED OUT OF HIS APARTMENT?

HUH?

THEN WHERE?

YOU'RE GOING TO GO ALL THE WAY TO A LOVE HOTEL?

AT THAT TIME NACHI DID NOT KNOW I WAS STILL A VIRGIN.

I... I WOULDN'T DO THAT SORT OF THING HERE!

YOU...

YOU DIDN'T KNOW?

HUH!?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?

I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU FOR DETAILS AFTER WE FINISHED MOVING IN...

I,

YESTERDAY I HEARD THAT THE PREZ IS TAKING CARE OF SOME OF HIS STUFF

YOU WERE BUSY MOVING YOURSELF...

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME..?

FOR NOW AFRICA.

I'LL START THERE FOR 2-3 YEARS.

I'LL KEEP GOING AS LONG AS I CAN.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WHY!?

IT'S THE REASON WHY I WORKED MY ASS OFF TO GRADUATE.

WHY?

WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE ME BEHIND FOR SO MANY YEARS?

WHEN I HEARD HIM TALK ABOUT LEAVING...

I STARTED FEELING SAD.

THAT'S ...

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WOULD HAVE HATED THE IDEA OF ME TRAVELLING.

WHY DIDN'T YOU AT LEAST DISCUSS IT WITH ME!

HE WOULD LEAVE ME AND TRAVEL AGAIN.

I KNEW THAT ONE DAY,

I'M SORRY.

IT'S MY FAULT FOR NOT SAYING ANYTHING.

WELL ...

DON'T GO.

STAY ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.

NO.

CHEER UP!

I KNEW IT BUT...

WE CAN HANG OUT AGAIN WHEN I COME BACK.

RIGHT?

I DIDN'T LOSE.

AFTER I'M GONE YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE POPULAR WITH THE GUYS.

SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART...

I GREW OUT MY HAIR.

BUT I'M STILL UNPOPULAR.

YOU LOST THE BET!

YOU PROMISED!

YOU SAID YOU'D DO ANYTHING I WANTED!

I HOPED HE WOULD STAY FOR ME.

TSU-CCHI ...

DON'T YOU...

LOVE ME...?

YOUR TITS ARE HUGE.

YOU'RE FUN TO HAVE AROUND.

OF COURSE I DO.

YOU'RE THE CUTEST GIRL IN ALL OF TABISEN.

IF IT WAS JUST SUPERFICIAL,

YOU WOULD HAVE SLEPT WITH ME THAT NIGHT.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE GETTING THE WRONG IDEA HERE.

BUT,

THAT'S ALL.

YOU LIAR!

DID I?

YOU MEAN THAT TIME YOU WERE PRETENDING TO BE ASLEEP?

YOU KISSED ME...

NOT ONCE HAVE I EVER TRIED TO SEDUCE YOU OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?

BESIDES FROM THE START,

ANY GUY WOULD HAVE DONE THAT IF A GIRL WAS ASLEEP IN FRONT OF THEM.

THAT WOULD FUCK ANY GIRL, RIGHT?

YOU KNEW I'M THE TYPE OF GUY..

RU...!

THEN,

SLEEP WITH ME RIGHT NOW!

IF YOU DO I'LL WAIT FOR YOU NO MATTER HOW LONG...

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SLEEP WITH YOU.

I'LL SLEEP WITH YOU.

SURE.

BUT BEFORE I DO,

NO MATTER WHAT CRUEL THINGS HE SAID TO ME...

I LOVE YOU...

I LOVE YOU TSUCCHI.

I WANTED TO BELIEVE HE FELT THE SAME WAY.

GO LOSE YOUR VIRGINITY WITH SOMEONE ELSE FIRST.

ONCE YOU DO THAT I'LL FUCK YOU ANYTIME YOU WANT.

ON TOP OF BEING SHITTY IN BED THEY DON'T CUM NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU THRUST.

IT'S SO ANNOYING. THEY BLEED.

I REFUSE TO DEAL WITH VIRGINS.

BEING OFFERED OR GIVEN SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I DON'T WANT TO SOUND CONDESCENDING, BUT I'M DOWNRIGHT FED UP WITH THAT.

WHEN I WAS THROWN OUT OF HIS ROOM..

IT BROKE MY HEART.

GO!

SO,

I WANTED TO BELIEVE.

IF YOU PUT YOURSELF OUT THERE ANY GUY WILL JUMP AT THE CHANCE.

THIS IS NOT HOW HE TRULY FEELS.

THAT ...

FOR MY SAKE COME BACK AFTER LEARNING HOW TO SUCK DICK!

BUT...

PHEW ...

WHEN I TURNED 20 I EMBARKED ON A HOT SPRING TRIP TO MEND MY BROKEN HEART.

AFTER THAT,

I LOVE HAVING THE OPEN AIR BATH ALL TO MYSELF. ♡

THE WEATHER IS GREAT AND THE BOOZE IS DELISH! ♡

I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN.

AS LONG AS I HAVE MY HOT SPRINGS,

THIS IS MY PARADISE.

NEED MEN!

I DON'T..

IT ENDED WITHOUT EVEN SEEING HIM OFF ON HIS TRIP.

A NEW ENCOUNTER OPENED A DOOR.

ON THE MAY,

I CONSIDERED I NO LONGER NEEDED LOVE ...

HOT SPRINGS ROCK! ♪

YAY ♪

WHAT A MYSTERIOUS CONNECTION ...

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU!

GRANPA ...

YOUR STRAIGHT FORWARD FEELINGS OPENED MY HEART

IT HAS NOT EVEN BEEN A YEAR SINCE THAT TIME,

BUT I ALREADY MOVED ON.

I DON'T HAVE ANY RECOL-LECTION OF IT.

BUT THAT TRIP WAS THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM..

I LOVE YOU GRANPA.

I WANT TO TELL YOU THESE WORDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

ピンポーン☆

YES.?

DENTIST.

I WANT A NEW CROWN.

WHERE ...?

KOMAI-KUN.

I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT.

GO AHEAD.

IT'LL BE FINE. IT'S ONE OF THOSE BILL YOU LATER PLACES.

I SEE.

WHAT ABOUT THE DOCTOR'S FEE?

About 1000 yen should do it

SO YEAH, COULD YOU LEND ME MONEY TO GET THERE?

I'LL PAY YOU BACK PROMISE.

首都圏から行く

日帰り温泉

OH!

YOU'RE PLANNING TO GO TO A HOT SPRING, NICE!

YOU SURE 1000 YEN IS ENOUGH?

OH YEAH THIS TIME OF YEAR TABISEN ALWAYS THROWS A FAREWELL PARTY.

WHEN IS IT SCHE-DULED?

I WAS JUST KILLING TIME READING THAT

JUST IN CASE I'LL LEND YOU 2000 YEN.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENERO-SITY!

I'M JUST LENDING IT TO YOU.

THIS GUY...!!

HE'S NOT PLANNING TO SHOW UP IS HE!?

I SEE.

PERFECT IT'S RIGHT AROUND WHEN YUU WILL BE DONE WITH HIS EXAMS.

FEBRUARY 16-17...

RUKA-SAN ...

WHO IS GOING TO BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT?

THAT SELFISH, SPOILED BRAT IS GOING TO PRESIDENT!? CAN SHE EVEN HANDLE IT!

!

RUKA!?

SELFISH, SPOILED BRAT.

.....

I'LL GET GOING NOW.

ANY-WAY.

MY HEART IS TORN APART WITH ENVY.

WHEN I PICTURE RUKA-SAN ACTING SPOILED IN A CUTESY MANNER...

CHAPTER 23 ADVICE

TAKEKI "TSUCCHI" TSUCHIYA (26) FORMER MEMBER OF TABISEN,

HE HAS BEEN FREELOADING AT MY HOUSE FOR THE PAST 3 DAYS.

IMBUED WITH "WIN"?

PORK CHOPS?

DID YOU ALSO HAVE PORK CHOPS THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR EXAMS?

THAT SHOULD BE YOUR AMBITION TOMORROW!

IT'S IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO STAY IN THAT MINDSET!

THAT'S PRETTY LAME BRO.

IT SEEMS LIKE I'M CURSED WITH BAD LUCK.

BUT I HAD PORK CHOPS THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND PASSED, OK!

HE PRAYED FOR A PASSING SCORE, BUT IN THE END HE ENDED UP AS A RONIN.

NOT EVEN!

HE HAD THE FLU AND A REALLY HIGH FEVER. HE COULD BARELY EAT RICE PORRIDGE.

THEN YUU WON'T RUN INTO ANY PROBLEMS THEN...

WITH MY NATURAL ABILITY TO ATTRACT BAD LUCK,

I END UP TAKING CARE OF MY RIVAL IN LOVE.

GO IN TOMORROW WITH THE INTENTION OF PASSING!

HEY!

WHO KNOWS.

IF TSUCCHI WOULD HAVE TUTORED ME EARLIER I MIGHT HAVE PASSED WITH NO PROBLEMS.

MY LITTLE BROTHER ENDS UP GETTING EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED TO HIM AS WELL...

I SHOULD BECOME A WANDERER LIKE TSUCCHI!

IF I DON'T GET IN TO ANY SCHOOLS,

Image by Yuu

I'LL GO VILLAGE TO VILLAGE, COUNTRY TO COUNTRY.

THEY WILL LET ME STAY AND I'D HELP OUT WITH ANY WORK.

I'LL VISIT VILLAGES NO TOUR GUIDE HAS EVER PUBLISHED. THERE I'LL BEFRIEND THE NATIVES.

DON'T BE STUPID!

EH?

HEY HEY! NEXT TIME TAKE ME WITH YOU!

BRO!!

YUU.

YOUR BROTHER IS RIGHT.

DON'T RUN AWAY FROM YOUR EXAMS.

IF YOU FAIL YOUR EXAMS YOU'RE GOING TO WANDER THE WORLD? WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU!!

TO BEGIN WITH,

DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW MUCH THAT LITTLE TRIP WOULD CAUSE YOUR FAMILY TO WORRY? YOU UNGRATEFUL CHILD!!

.....

ABOUT BEFORE,

THAT SPITEFUL REMARK SOUNDED LIKE IT WAS MEANT FOR TSUCCHI...

はぁ

ち

YET...

YOU HAVE A HARSH ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIM ALL THE TIME.

YOU ALWAYS TOLD ME,

"TO RESPECT YOUR ELDERS."

WHY IS THAT?

THAT ISN'T LIKE YOU BRO.

IT'S BECAUSE I ENVY HIM.

I'M SORRY ...

I SAID TOO MUCH EARLIER.

IT MAKES ME SO JEALOUS ...

I'M JUST ON EDGE BECAUSE OF YOUR EXAMS.

I'LL KEEP MY ATTITUDE IN CHECK.

SO GO TO BED ALREADY.

ALSO ONE MORE THING.

OK.

THE GUY RUKA-SAN *CAN'T FORGET ABOUT*,

HE IS A PERSON WHO ATTRACTS OTHERS TO HIM. IN AN INSTANT HE CAUGHT YUU'S HEART AS WELL.

HE'S THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF ME.

I KNOW YOU HAD NO IDEA.

BUT ...

YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE BRO.

TSUCCHI HAS NO FAMILY.

!.....

THEY DIED IN A FIRE DURING HIS FRESHMAN YEAR OF COLLEGE.

EVEN THOUGH I WANT TO HATE HIM...

GOOD NIGHT.

TSU-CHIYA-SAN.

I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

...THEN CALLING YOU AN UNGRATEFUL CHILD...

ABOUT EARLIER...

IT WAS VERY RUDE OF ME.

HUH?

WHAT WAS?

OH.

.....

THAT WAS MEANT FOR ME?

MY PARENTS ARE LOOKING OVER ME IN THE NEXT WORLD SO THEY AREN'T RESTING IN PEACE!

WELL... THAT IS CERTAINLY UNGRATEFUL BEHAVIOR.

I'M SORRY ...

SO IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

OK?

YOU ARE ALSO VERY RELIABLE.

YOU'RE A GOOD OLDER BROTHER WHO IS CONSIDERATE OF HIS LITTLE BROTHER.

YEAH YOU'RE RIGHT.

TRAVELING EXPENSES ARE A PROBLEM...

THAT'S WHY YOUR PARENTS CAN RELAX KNOWING YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THE HOUSE.

THE COST OF LIVING IN SWEDEN IS PRETTY HIGH TOO.

DO YOU PLAN ON VISITING THEM?

I HEARD THEY ARE CURRENTLY LIVING IN STOCKHOLM?

GOOD NIGHT.

ANYWAY GOOD NIGHT.

AT THE SAME TIME,

IT'S AMPLIFIED BY MY SELF-LOATHING.

WHY IS SLEEPING OUTDOORS THE DEFAULT WAY...

So I guess going there would be little hard

WEATHER IS COLD TOO, SO SLEEPING OUTDOORS IS NO GOOD.

EVEN THOUGH I WANT TO HATE HIM SO BAD...

IT'S MISPLACED HATE.

BUT I'M NOT THE TYPE OF PETTY GUY,

THAT CAN HATE SOMEONE BECAUSE OF ENVY OR AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX.

SINCE HE FLAT OUT REJECTED RUKA-SAN.

IT WAS DEVASTATING BEING COMPLETELY REJECTED...

I STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ON HIM...

EVEN AFTER 6 MONTHS,

EVEN NOW,

SHE STILL HAS FEELINGS FOR HIM...

I'M A COWARD.

I DON'T HAVE THE DETERMI-NATION TO TELL HER THAT HE'S BACK.

I WANT TO KEEP THEM APART.

SORRY, FOR BEING LATE.

I'M SORRY TOO. I CALLED YOU HERE ALL OF THE SUDDEN. IS IT A PROBLEM?

NO, IT'S FINE. HOWEVER I HAVE TO LEAVE BY 5.

SO LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE, OK?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

IT'S ABOUT A GIRL RIGHT?

AH!

EHH...

WELL ...

UM ...

IT'S ...

TWO BEERS PLEASE.

I THOUGHT IT'D BE EASIER FOR YOU TO TALK THAT WAY.

!?

BEER..?

I DECIDED TO RELY ON SHIMAZU'S ADVICE.

ON WHAT I SHOULD DO ABOUT THIS MATTER...

BEFORE RUKA-SAN COMES BACK.

IT'S FINE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL HER, THEN YOU DON'T NEED TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO DO SO.

BUT ...

IT JUST FEELS COWARDLY ...

YOU'RE JUST NOT SAYING ANYTHING.

NOT LIKE YOU ARE DECEIVING HER.

YOU CAN BE TOO SERIOUS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD SOMETIMES.

STOP OVER THINKING,

AND JUST PUSH THROUGH.

AHAHAHA!

THAT'S SO TRUE!

IF I COULD DO THAT I WOULDN'T BE HAVING THIS EMBARRASSING ADVICE CHAT.

TO NEVER GO NEAR "RUKA-SAN" AGAIN.

IF HE SHOULD RUN INTO HER BY CHANCE,

TO GIVE HER THE COLD SHOULDER.

HMM...

THEN WHAT IF WE DO THIS,

THE TWO OF US GO OUT FOR DRINKS WITH THAT "TSUCCHI" GUY.

I'LL ASK HIM FOR YOU,

I CAN HANG OUT WITH YOU LIKE THIS...

I...

I THINK SHE'S BETTER OFF CUTTING ANY LINGERING AFFECTION THOUGH?

THAT'S HORRIBLE FOR RUKA-SAN...

EVEN THOUGH THAT IS THE KIND OF RELA-TIONSHIP WE HAVE ...

YET I CAN DRINK WITH YOU AND TALK ABOUT LOVE.

YOU'VE REJECTED ME IN THE PAST,

HOW COULD I JUST TAKE AWAY ANY CHANCE FOR THEM TO MEET?

OR MAKING DOUBLY SURE SHE STAYS HEART BROKEN.

I DEFINITELY WOULDN'T WANT THAT FOR HER.

I DON'T WANT TO HURT HER.

EVEN NOW,

SHE STILL CRIES OVER HIM FROM TIME TO TIME.

KOMAI...

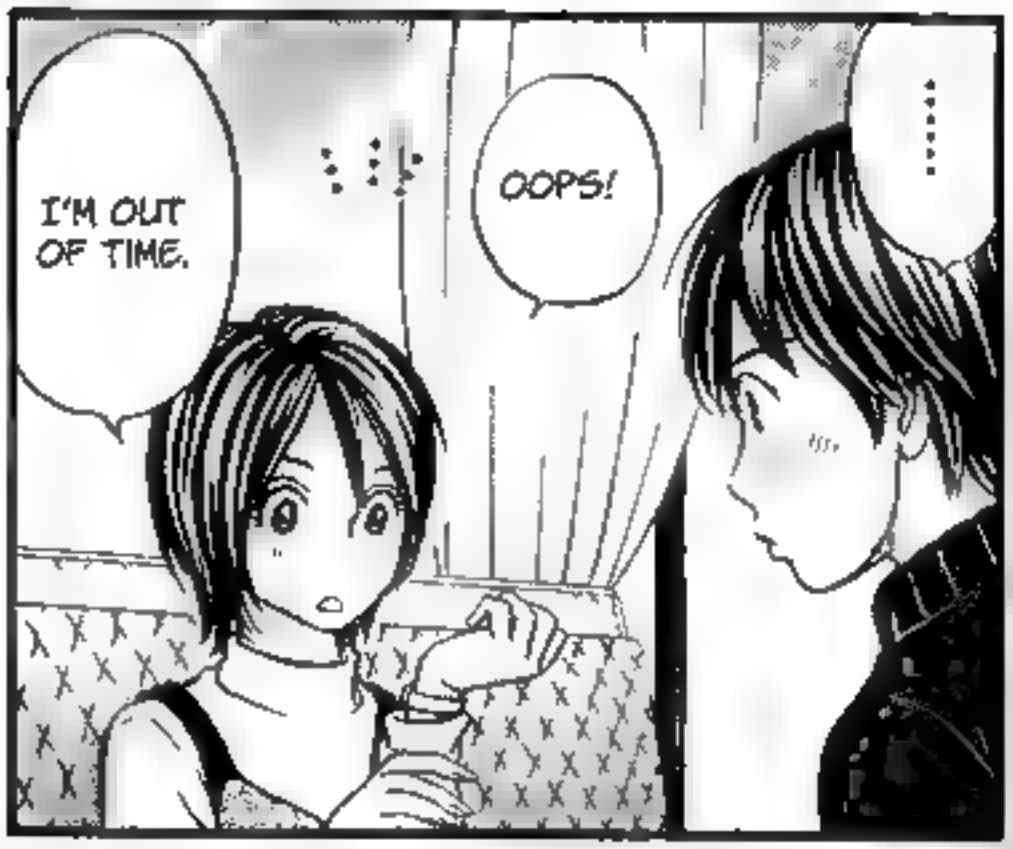
YOU REALLY DO CARE FOR HER.

MAKES ME FEEL A LITTLE JEALOUS.

EH?

THIS "RUKA-SAN" IS A VERY LUCKY GIRL.

I WISH SHE WOULD HURRY UP AND REALIZE IT.


I'M OUT OF TIME.
OOPS!
.....

ONCE YOUR FEELINGS GET THROUGH TO HER,
I'M SURE THINGS WILL WORK OUT.

THANKS SHIMAZU.
FOR HEARING ME OUT...
OH...

THANKS TO YOU I FEEL BETTER.

LOOKS LIKE I WASN'T OF MUCH USE THOUGH.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I'M HOME.
HEY YUU.
HOW DID IT GO?

HUH?

AS I THOUGHT SHIMAZU,
THE BEST THING TO DO IS JUST BE YOURSELF.
YOU ARE MY BEACON OF HOPE...

TODAY MIGHT HAVE GONE WELL FOR HIM, NO?

HE STILL HAS TWO EXAMS LEFT...

RE-PORT!?

AH.

HE WENT TO REPORT TO HIS FRIENDS ABOUT HIS EXAM.

HE DOESN'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE ELSE BESIDES HIS FIRST CHOICE.

ALSO,

LOOKS LIKE YOUR TOUGH LOVE LAST NIGHT GOT HIM PUMPED.

HUH?

YOU'RE GOOD SIBLINGS.

IT'S A SPARE RIB STEW I LEARNED FROM MY MEXICAN MOM.

♪

I KNOW RIGHT?

THIS IS GOOD!

IF RUKA-SAN WASN'T A FACTOR,

I'M SURE ...

.....

I TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING FAMILY ALL OVER THE WORLD.

BY THE WAY,

HOW'S RUKA DOING?

YUU AND I,

WE WOULD BE GOING CRAZY TOGETHER LISTENING TO HIS TRAVEL STORIES...

IS SHE DATING ANYONE?

I JUST CAN'T FORGIVE HIM...

ｈｑ。

NO MATTER WHAT,

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO ASK ABOUT THAT, TSUCHIYA-SAN.

THAT'S...

AFTER YOU HURT HER SO MUCH.

THEN FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO JUST LEAVE HER LIKE THAT.

I SEE ...

SO THAT IS REASON YOU DON'T LIKE ME MUCH, HUH?

DON'T YOU THINK IT WAS EXCESSIVE TO GET HER HOPES UP THEN CRUSHED THEM.

BUT YOU MADE IT ALL OUT TO BE A MISUNDER-STANDING!

RUKA-SAN ...

SHE WANTED TO BE WITH YOU!

YOU JUST TOYED WITH HER EMOTIONS AND THREW HER AWAY.

HOW COULD I NOT HATE HIM.

.....

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SCUMBAG!

IF A GIRL WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU.

BUT,

THAT GIRL JUST WASN'T SUITED TO BE WITH YOU.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

YOU WOULDN'T TRY TO GET AWAY FROM HER?

.....

WHAT IF YOU ARE MORE IN LOVE WITH HER?

I DON'T KNOW ...

WHAT IF SHE WANTS TO SLEEP WITH YOU?

COULD YOU HOLD BACK YOUR OWN FEELINGS?

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME.

.....

I HAD TO MESS AROUND WITH HER.

SHE COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH ME.

EVEN THOUGH I KNEW IT WOULDN'T WORK OUT.

IT PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF I WAS MORE REASONABLE LIKE YOU.

SHE WAS TOTALLY MY TYPE TOO.

BUT,

THAT'S NOT MUCH OF AN EXCUSE.

I JUST DON'T KNOW.

I...

EXPE-RIENCE.

I KNOW FROM SCREWING UP MANY TIMES BEFORE.

WHY?

WHY WOULD YOU DECIDE THINGS WON'T WORK OUT WITHOUT EVEN TRYING?

I THINK ...

THAT YOU'RE JUST TOO SELFISH.

.....

SHE WOULD HAVE CRIED IF I BROUGHT HER ALONG OR LEFT HER BEHIND.

IF IT WAS THE SAME RESULT EITHER WAY I DIDN'T WANT TO DRAG IT OUT

ISN'T THAT JUST FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE?

ISN'T THAT JUST ONE SIDED?

YOU DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO FIND A COMPROMISE ...

YOU'RE RIGHT ON EVERY ACCOUNT.

YUP

YOU THINK THERE IS ONE?

A COMPROMISE ...

THE FOOD IS NOT AT FAULT HERE, RIGHT?

EAT UP

I HAVE NO RIGHT TO ASK YOU THAT.

WELL ...

DO YOU THINK,

I STILL HAVE TIME TO MAKE ONE?

Sorry, Shimazu.

ふふふ
ふふふ
ふふふ

おすす

After I decided to take your advice...

I, self-destructed.

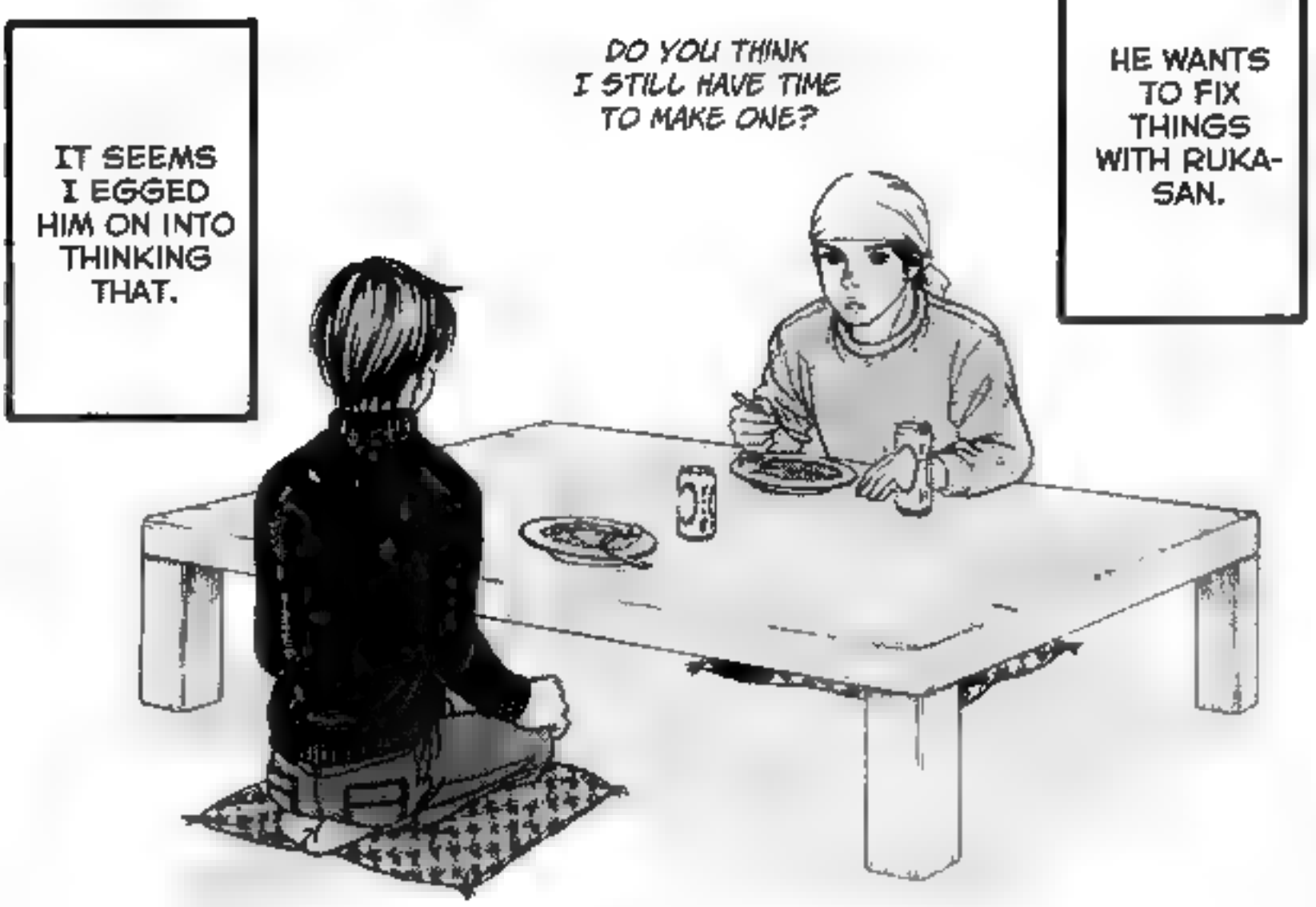
KOMAI ...?

CHAPTER 24
DRINKING BUDDY

I'm sorry, Shimazu.

After I decided to take your advice...

I, self-destructed.



THAT WAS NOT MY INTENTION.

I JUST ...

I WANTED TO BLAME HIM FOR WHAT HE DID TO HER...

KOMAI-KUN, YOU AWAKE?

コンコン♪

I GOT A JOB INTER-VIEW TODAY.

I'LL BE BACK IN THE EVENING.

I CAN GO SHOPPING ON MY WAY BACK IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.

GOT IT

OH,

ONE MORE THING.

I DIS-CUSSED IT WITH YUU SO TONIGHT YOU CAN MAKE DINNER.

I'M GOING OUT IN THE EVENING...

HE TOLD ME THAT IF I MOVE IN WITHOUT NEEDING ANY RENOVATIONS I DON'T HAVE TO PAY ANY SECURITY DEPOSIT.

LOOKS LIKE MY OLD ROOM WILL BE VACANT THIS MONTH.

I TALKED WITH MY OLD LANDLORD

GOT IT.

OK?

SO YOU JUST NEED TO BE PATIENT A LITTLE LONGER

IF HE GETS THE JOB,

IS THAT SO?

I THINK IT'S A LITTLE EARLY TO JUMP INTO DESPAIR THOUGH.

THAT'S ONE ISSUE OUT OF THE WAY ...

THE APARTMENT WHERE HE USED TO LIVE...

THAT'S BY OUR SCHOOL.

WHICH MEANS...

HE'LL BE LIVING IN RUKA-SAN'S NEIGHBOR-HOOD...

OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, I THINK YOU HAVE THE ADVANTAGE.

THAT'S WHAT I THINK.

I'M SAYING IT'S NOT LIKE THINGS WILL DEFINITELY GO WELL FOR HIM WITH HER.

OVER A GUY WHO WANTS TO WANDER THE WORLD MAKING HIS PARTNER WAIT IN WORRY

I WOULD DEFINITELY PREFER A GUY WHO IS THERE FOR ME.

I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER.

IT'S TOO EARLY TO GIVE UP!

LIKE I SAID!

I HAVE NO WAY OF WINNING HER OVER ...

IF TSUCHIYA-SAN STOPS TRAVELING,

SO IN OTHER WORDS ...

MY GOOD POINTS ...

BUT IT'S PATHETIC TRYING TO APPEAL TO HER BY SAYING "I'M A NICE AND SERIOUS GUY"

PEOPLE SAY I'M NICE AND SERIOUS.

IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD PURSUE HER HEAD ON!

SHOW HER YOUR GOOD POINTS! KEEP PUSHING THROUGH!

NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO GIVE UP!

.....

YOUR APPEAL TO HER SHOULD BE ENCLOSED IN A CASUAL MANNER..

IT SHOULD BE LIKE,

WELL YEAH IF YOU SAY IT THAT WAY.

HMM...

THIS IS CERTAINLY DIFFICULT ...

LIKE ...

I'M NOT TOTALLY SURE WHAT YOU SHOULD DO.

WHY HIM?

THAT'S LIKE ONE OF HIS SPECIAL-TIES.

HE'S ALWAYS GIVING LOVE ADVICE TO HIS CLUB FRIENDS.

I KNOW!

LET'S CONSULT WITH MY BOYFRIEND ABOUT A BATTLE PLAN!

TONIGHT HE SAID HE WAS JUST GOING TO WATCH DVDS HE RECORDED.

LET'S SWITCH OVER TO OUR PLACE AND DIS-CUSS IT.

YEAH?

WELL TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,

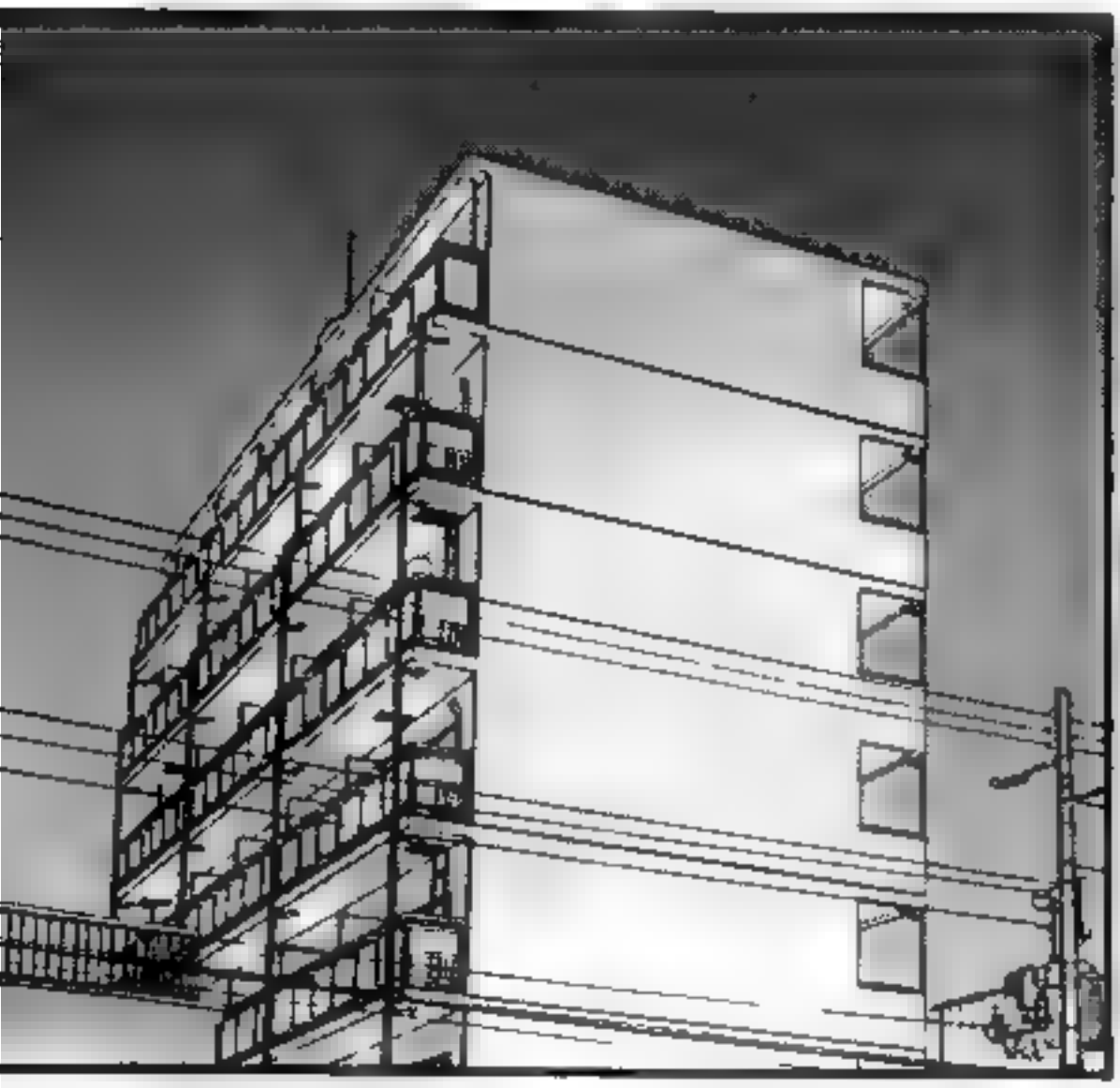
WE'VE BEEN LIVING TOGETHER SINCE SPRING OF LAST YEAR.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

"OUR PLACE"?

IT'S ME, NAGISA.
I'M COMING HOME WITH KOMAI SO DON'T GO ANYWHERE.
ピ
!
OH THE ANSWERING MACHINE,
IS HE TAKING A BATH?
EH!?

LIVING TOGETHER? THEY ARE PRACTICALLY MARRIED!
SO HIS HUNCH WAS COMPLETELY OFF!
"BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S GOING WELL, RIGHT?"
between the two of them



Sure thing!
Excuse me but could you make the yakitori to go?
BUT STILL SHIMAZU LIVING WITH A GUY...
THAT SHIMAZU ...

I'M HOME.

I'M HERE WITH KOMAI.

ドキドキ

SO THIS IS THEIR LOVE NEST ...

I FEEL STRANGELY EMBARRASSED ...

COME IN! COME IN!

PARDON THE INTRU-SION...

HM?

WHOA THERE ARE TWO PILLOWS ON THE BED ...

OH Y-YEAH ...

YOU REMEMBER HIM? HE WAS IN THE TENNIS TEAM..

MAMORU IMAGAWA

HUH?

I WAS COMING OVER WITH KOMAI SO YOU CAN GIVE HIM ADVICE...

YOU DIDN'T GET THE MESSAGE I LEFT?

NA..!

NAGISA...! WHY ARE YOU HERE!?

AH..!

BUT I BROUGHT YAKITORI.

THERE'S THIS GREAT ODEN SHOP BY THE TRAIN STATION!

THEN LET'S GO OUTSIDE! OK!

THEN ...!

!!

OH SHIT ...

ARE YOU HIS... GIRL-FRIEND ?

は？！

I-I'M!!

I'M SO SORRY!

.....

UM...

THERE ARE...

VA-RIOUS ...

REASONS FOR THIS ...

ああ
ああ

LET'S GO KOMAI.

.....

SHI-MAZU ...

WHAT THE HELL...

DON'T FUCKING TOUCH ME WITH YOUR FILTHY HANDS!

YOU TOO.

AREN'T YOU MESSING AROUND WITH HIM?

IF YOU DO WE'RE THROUGH!

SO WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GO FUCK HIM NOW?

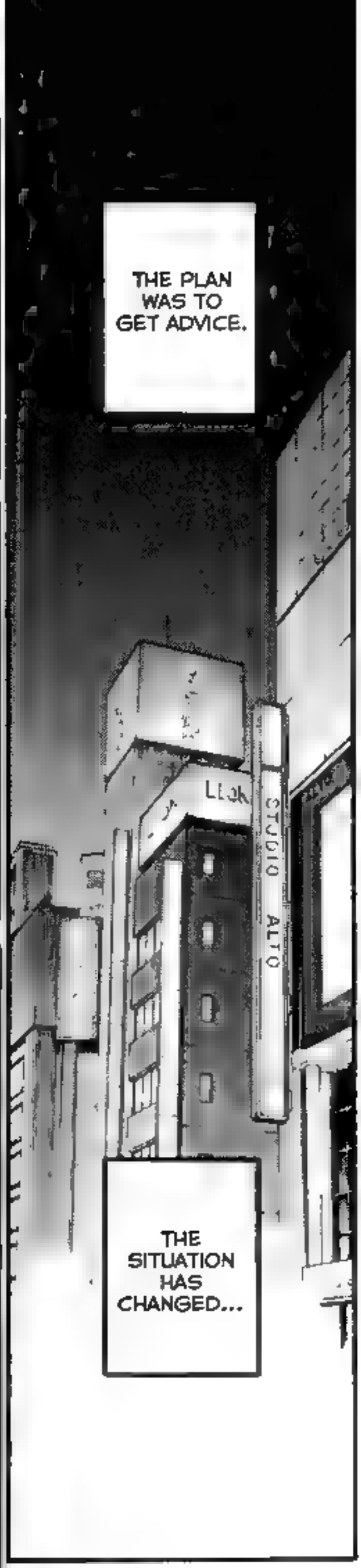
YOU HEAR ME NAGISA! WE'RE FINISHED!!

ぐいっ
GIVE ME ANOTHER!

ぐいぐい
SHI-MAZU ...
SLOW DOWN A BIT...

HE WAS VERY SERIOUS AND SHY.
HE WAS THE TYPE WHO WOULD NEVER TALK TO GIRLS OF HIS OWN VOLITION.

HE WASN'T LIKE THAT BEFORE...


THE PLAN WAS TO GET ADVICE.
STUDIO ALTO
THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED...

HE WAS GOOD AT TENNIS SO GIRLS STARTED TO FLOCK TO HIM.

HE GRADUALLY BECAME WRAPPED IN FLATTERY.

HE GOT INTO A GOOD SCHOOL.

HE JOINED THE TENNIS TEAM.

STILL ...

AS I THOUGHT HE DIDN'T LIKE YOU DOING THIS.

YOU KNOW GOING OUT FOR DRINKS WITH OTHER GUYS LIKE THIS...

MAYBE THAT IS WHAT CAUSED THIS...

THERE WERE MANY TIMES HE DID THINGS THAT SEEMED SUSPICIOUS.

BUT I TRUST-ED HIM.

AFTER WE GRADUATED HE TOLD ME WE WOULD GET MARRIED.

WE STARTED LIVING TOGETHER AFTER OUR PARENTS GAVE US THEIR BLESSING...

I'M REALLY GLAD I GET TO HANG OUT WITH YOU,

I'M THE SAME.

BUT I WOULD HATE FOR RUKA-SAN TO HANG OUT WITH TSUCHIYA-SAN.

BUT YOUR CIRCUM-STANCES ARE DIFFERENT

EVEN THOUGH HE SAID HE WAS NO GOOD WITH ALCOHOL AND WAS JUST GIVING THEM ADVICE.

HE'D OFTEN GO DRINKING WITH GIRLS FROM HIS CLUB TOO, YOU KNOW?

IT'S OK FOR HIM BUT NOT FOR HIS GIRL.

THAT'S JUST A MAN'S EGO.

EVEN IF I UNWILLINGLY ACCEPT THAT THIS WAS MY FAULT,

WHY DID HE HAVE TO DO IT ON THE SAME BED WE SLEPT IN?

ABOVE ALL IN THAT ROOM...

I LACK THE WORDS TO CONSOLE HER.

SO FUCKING DIRTY!

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM!

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR HER.

BESIDES SIT HERE AND DRINK WITH HER ...

HE WAS NOT LIKE THIS ...

IN HIGH SCHOOL,

HE WAS MORE LIKE YOU KOMAI

.....!

DON'T EVER CHANGE ...

KOMAI ...

THE WAY YOU ARE NOW..

STAY ...

OK?

COME ON WAKE UP.

FOR NOW,

GO HOME AND TALK THIS OUT WITH HIM.

THE LAST TRAIN IS ABOUT TO LEAVE.

0:03

SHIMAZU ...

( )

AH I'M SO TIRED

IT'S BECAUSE SOMEONE WANTED TO STAY IN THE HOT SPRING. WE BARELY MADE IT BACK.

WE HAD TO TAKE THE LAST TRAIN.

NO!

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK.

I SIMPLY LOVE HOT SPRINGS!

WHY DOES EVERYTHING REVOLVE AROUND SEX WITH YOU!

I UNDERSTAND YOU WANT YOUR SKIN TO BE NICE AND SOFT FOR YOUR FIRST TIME WITH GRANPA KOMA..

♡

BUT I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.

かぁぁ～

THAT ...

T-THAT ...

LIKE I SAID!

HE'LL DEFINITELY WANT TO HAVE SEX.

♡

THAT DEPENDS ON GRANPA. IT WON'T BE COMING FROM ME..

BUT,

WHEN YOU CONFESS TO HIM THERE WILL BE TENSION TO DO IT RIGHT AWAY, NO?

WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO CONFESS TO HIM?

SO,

I WANT TO DO IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,

BUT NOT OVER THE PHONE OR TEXT MESSAGE.

NICE! YOU WANT TO TAKE YOUR TIME IN PERSON...

IF TSUCCHI IS REALLY BACK IN JAPAN,

I WANT HIM TO SEE YOU GLOWING FROM ALL THE ACTION YOU'RE GOING TO BE GETTING. ♪

SO YOU CAN HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO GET DOWN AND DIRTY WHEN THE MOOD HITS!

I TOLD YOU! WHY DOES IT ALWAYS HAVE TO BE ABOUT SEX!?

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SLEEP?

BREAKFAST WON'T MAKE ITSELF!

BRO!

BRO!

I SAID WAKE UP!

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.

I JUST WANT HIM,

TO CONGRATULATE ME WITH A SMILE.

むく

SHI...

SHIM...

SHIMA...!

SHIMAZU-SAN!?

WHERE AM I?

WE WENT DRINKING AND YOU MISSED YOUR TRAIN.

YOU WERE A COMPLETE WRECK.

SINCE I DIDN'T KNOW THE ADDRESS OF YOUR PARENTS' HOUSE OR ANY OTHER PLACE TO TAKE YOU...

I SEE ...

I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...

.....

I BROUGHT YOU HOME WITH ME FOR THE TIME BEING.

AH!

I SLEPT IN MY PARENTS' BEDROOM.

DON'T WORRY I JUST TOOK OFF YOUR DIRTY COAT!

DID I THROW UP...?

IT'S FINE...
I'M SORRY.
FOR TROUBLING YOU...
THAT'S SO UNFAIR HOW YOU SECRETLY WENT OUT DRINKING WITH SHIMAZU-SAN, BRO!!
THE HELL IT IS!
.....
EVEN SO! THAT'S UNFAIR!!
YOU ARE A MINOR STILL TAKING ENTRANCE EXAMS NO?

KOMAI,

I KNOW OF HIM.

I WAS SO OVERWHELMED WITH ANGER I FORGOT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO TSUCCHI!

OOPS!

TOLD ME EVERYTHING.

□

DID HE NOW?

ちき

ちき

Good morning.
Last night I returned from
my hot spring trip.

I bought a ton of souvenirs!

How are Yuu-kun's exams going?

Must be tough being so supportive.

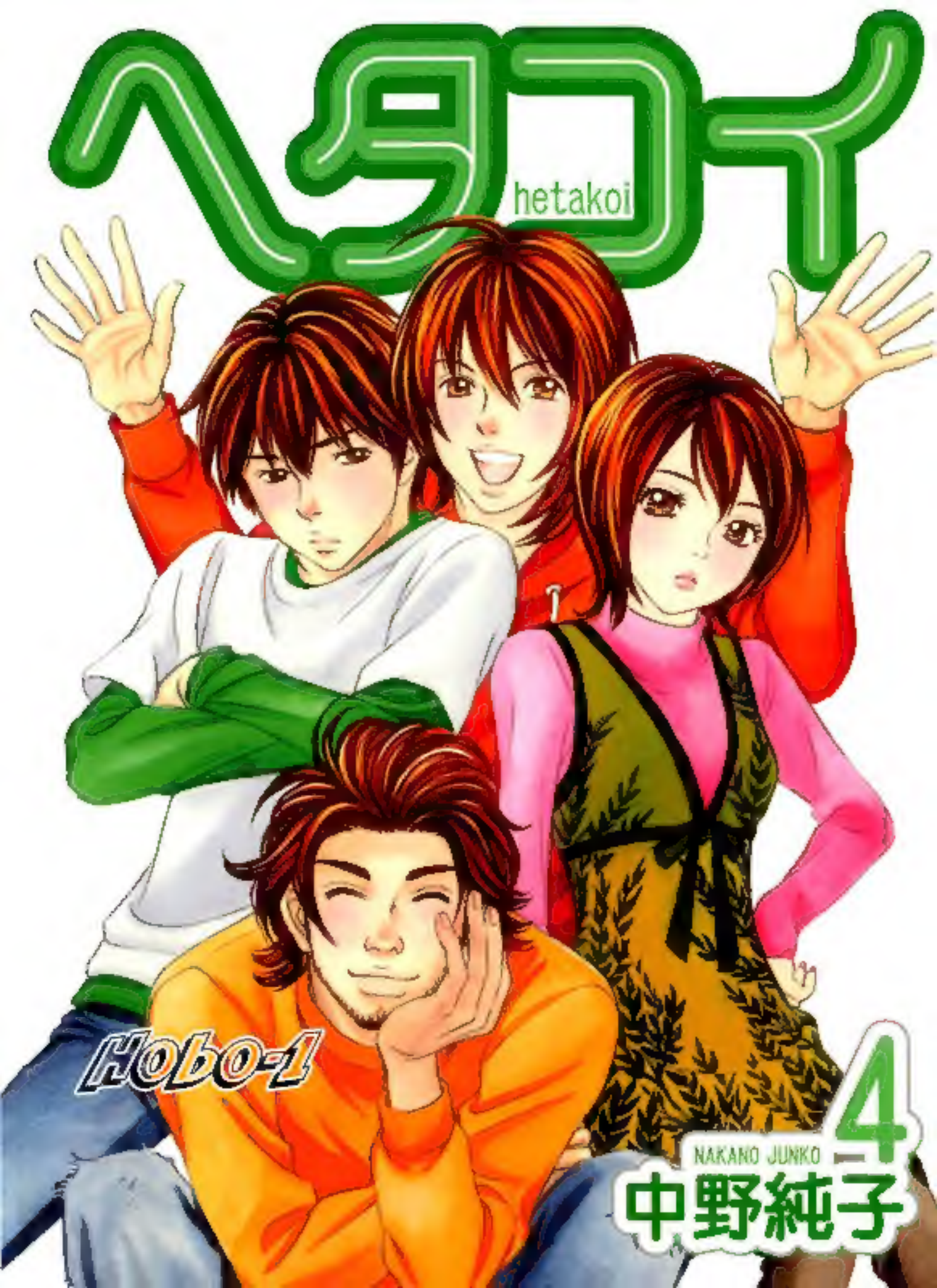
Please let me know when you have time to spare.

There are so many things I want to talk about with you.

Ruka.

ヘタコイ

hetakoi



HOBO-1

4

NAKANO JUNKO

中野純子